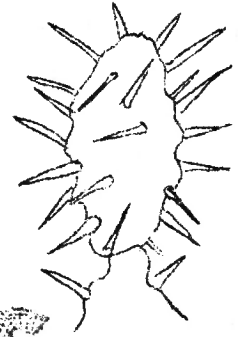


ESPINAS

Y

FLORES



June-1967

Publication of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

ARE YOU 4F?

A few years back 4F meant Flat-footed, Fat, and Forty, but now there is a different connotation. It's the reason we enter exhibits in the County Fair-Fun, Friendship, Finances, & Fame. The Fun of doing something with objects of enjoyment in the company of Friends who share this common interest. Finances? Why not? It isn't very often one can be a part of a function he likes and make money too. The prize money we derive from the exhibits enables the club to continue to give the membership plants at discount prices, a monthly paper, maintain a library, etc. with only a pretty nominal \$1.00 for dues. Fame? Yes, that may be stretching it a bit, but the pride of belonging to the Club when we do well is gratifying. The satisfaction of participating in a job well done is immense. Regardless of how small the collection or how weak the back, you can help. Baseball and Football games would be pretty dull without the fans in the stands. The goes here.

At our June 3rd meeting bring every potted plant that you can carry. We have entered in four classes this year and will need in excess of 100 plants per booth. The categories are-Cactus Garden, Succulent Garden, Outdoor Living, and Graft Display. In the Outdoor living we will feature hanging baskets along with a combination of Cacti and Succulents. The displays must be installed by June 21.

JUNE MEETING

Saturday June 3rd. 2pm
Floral Assoc. Building
Balboa Park

PURPOSE OF PARKS

Mrs. Martha Reierson
Cadman Park Assoc.

REPORT ON NATIONAL MEET

Suzanne Taylor

Exchange & Sale Table

There is always a cup of good coffee, a projector for slides, and a smile available.... "May you ever find life brighter, as each day comes and goes, with new happiness unfolding, like the petals of a rose."---E.D. Parker

In all the displays there will be a need for decorative driftwood, Cholla wood, rock, accessories, etc. that will aid the theme (wagon wheels, cow's skull, rusty old bean pots). If you think you have something we can use-CALL-SCOTTY-296-6022.

Got some plants in the ground too big to to carry to the meeting; don't worry, CALL SCOTTY! Got some extra time on your hands and want to know when the gang will be at the fair working; don't fret, CALL SCOTTY!

Each plant in the exhibits must be labeled with its proper name. You don't know an Aeonium arboreum atropurpureum from a Gymnocalycium multiflorum albispinum; don't worry Ruth Nelson will have all the books there and Bill Waite will show you how we did it last year, CALL SCOTTY!!!

(con't next page)

ARE YOU 4F (con't) Can you draw, print, paint- we need signs and things. CALL SCOTTY! Do you have a pickup, station wagon, or a car with a big trunk; we could use some help taking plants and things to and from the fair.-CALL SCOTTY! Can you drive a nail, hold a pole, carry a cup of coffee(without spilling too much), stay up till midnight (on weekends only), and laugh when you're dog tired?- CALL SCOTTY ++WALTER SCOTT, Fair Personal & Material Expeditor-296-6022++

WORK? There's no such thing, unless there's something else you would rather be doing.

THUMBNAIL OR TAPROOT GRAFTS

by Ted Hutchison

One who likes to graft Cactus needs no excuse to do so, but it is usually done with a purpose. Plants used for the base or stock are those that are easily grown here for the most part strong growers. For those who like to have little or no stock showing, these Thumbnail Grafts can be done. Of necessity the scions or tops are small. As they grow the stocks grow with them and in a way become their Taproots. Here are some notes on grafts and some of the reasons why they have been done.

PAMPERED DARLINGS. *Arthrocerus microsphaericus*, a small tropical species seldom grown on its own roots. If there is a shoot coming from the stock, this should be taken off to push strength into the scion. *Lemaireocereus benecki*, Silver Tip, this is a plant that has never become common and needs some pampering. If the new growth is not sprinkled it will retain a white powdery coating for a long time giving it the common name. This can best be developed in a glass house.

POPULATION EXPLOSION. *Mammillaria* variety, sometimes one wants offsets of a fine plant that seldom or never offsets and is slow to grow. For pups this seedling Mam. has been grafted upside down. *Mammillaria plumosa*, Feather Cactus, the spines on this one are soft and formed like feathers. It is often a stinker to grow on its own roots. The scar shows where a pup has been removed. Another stinker, *Mammillaria pennispinosa*, with the fuzz on all the spines this reminds me of a snapshot slightly out of focus.



Button up you overcoat...

HOME BODIES. These plants from Arizona are poor to establish and poor to grow, especially near the coast. They do better under deserty conditions. On grafts they whoop it up. *Carnegiea gigantea*, Saguaro, and *Lemaireocereus thurberi*, Organ Pipe...in particular.

NO MUDDY BOTTOMS. If these plants are grown in the ground it is easy for dirt to collect in the cracks and folds of the plants and with moisture the plants can become pfft. The plants stay much cleaner on a stock raised slightly above the surface. *Cereus monstrosus*, Curiosity Plant, for example.

GILDING THE LILY. Both of these plants bloom well on their own roots but even more so on grafts. *Lobivia larabei*, this is my favorite *Lobivia*, because it flowers so much. *Rebutia violaeiflora*, Pink Crown Cactus, when this plant is in the ground it is hard to collect seed.

SLOW POKES. I get impatient and want to enjoy these things before I get the blind staggers or something. *Eulychnia iniquiensis* var. *saint pieiana* (whew, what a mouthful!), The Chilean Old Man, is the prettiest *Cereus* from Chile. *Mammillaria albijensis*, this is a lovely plant (con't next page)

THUMBNAIL GRAFTS (con't) to always admire. SPONGERS..These plants don not grow on their own roots. Originally they were offsets from other plants. Mammillaria bocasana var. inermis, Atom Bomb, although this plant has chlorophyll and will develop roots almost never will the roots function. Chamaecereus Silverstri variegatus, Blonde Peanut Cactus, to get more grafting surface this scion was spilt lengthwise and set on the stock sidwise. Echinopsis hybrid variegata, Mimi, wears an Emerald Wig. The new growth on this is greenish and matures yellow leaving Mimi with a green tipknot. ***

JULY CACTIVITY

HELLO THERE, all you Cactophyles; Listen closely, please!! The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society extends a very cordial inbitation to all Cactus Clubs, all neophyte/tender, and all calloused/thorn-resisrant CACTOPHYLES to join with them at their July CACTIVITY.

Date: July 8th, 1967(second Saturday); Location: Taylor's Cactus Garden, 1640 E. Main St. El Cajon, Calif.; Time: 11 O'clock a.m. The CACTIVITY will begin in such a way that you may engage(or disengage whichever is aproo) yourself in a self-conducted tour of such points of interest on the hilltop as Cactus Corners, Yucca Holler, Rebutia Rest, Mammallaria Mesa, Thorny Terrace, and Spiney Street. Please, don't back up at any point; always move forward or at least sideways.

At 12 noon..that's,"When do we eat."time..FOT LUCK..bring a dish or dishes, main or salad, according to your own inspiration, imagination tast or culinary art. Also bring your own attack weaponry such as a spoon, fork, plate, cup, and if you have a special chair or table with well-worn elbow grooves, bring that too. Don't plan on boring a hole in a barrel cactus, inserting a spigot and drawing off any juice; that ain't allowed. There'll be liquid refreshments on tap or at the push, lift, and pour gimmick.



MIRROR, MIRROR...

About 1 o'clock the San Diego C&S will preview the the Cactus & Succulent of the month. "Top Spine Award" to the one who presents the best specimen as judged by a vote of the audience...and what prizes; look, but don't touch. The Cactus of the month will be Chamaecereus Silvestri; the Succulent of the month Cotyledon undulata.

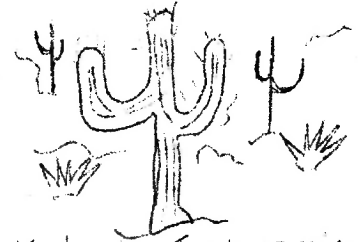
Afterwards Bob Taylor will demonstrate and talk on grafts or something, but whatever he does or says, you may be sure it will not be long and uninteresting. The demonstration grafts will be given as door prizes..WOW.

Concluding the proceding a CAC-TAUGHTION; the man at the mike raisin' a ruckus and raisin' the price will be none other than Mr. A. Phidd, himself(we think that's an alias or at least a "pen" name, not to be confused with pen-i-tentiary). Surely this will be a good place to spend some of your time, to say nothing of some of your money. ***

VITALOGY

HOW TO CULTIVATE MIRTH...The idea that no one can laugh except those who are so gifted by nature, is a superstition that can no more stand the light of modern knowledge than the "unlucky Friday" superstition or the fear of the number 13. We cultivate the serious, sober part of our nature and neglect to keep up our cheeriness and mirth, and after a while it becomes feeble from lack of exercise. The remedy is simply to practice mirthfulness, designedly for a little time, untill this, too, becomes second nature to us. It will pay to do this, not only because we will thus add to our own happiness (con't next page please)

VITALOGY (con't) and to that of those about us, but because it will add years to the length of life and will help enormously to keep off sickness, and especially anything in the nature of epidemic diseases. The "shaking of the sides" in hearty laughter loosens the particles of partly decayed matter in the muscles and facilitates their discharge through the lymphatics or the veins. The result is added strength to resist the encroaches of disease germs. They are more easily carried away and do us no harm. Therefore, as one values health and the power to resist the attack of disease, he should cultivate laughter and mirth and spend a little time in hunting up stories and associations that shall provoke merriment. Laugh and keep well. When any member of your family wants you to send for the doctor, administer a dose or two of the medicine of mirth. You will not only save many a doctor's bill thereby, but you will add brightness to the home, bind closer the affections and in every way improve the health and welfare of the household. (Ency of Health and Home, Wood & Ruddock) "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."--Solomon



YESTERDAY I WAS SERIOUS;

TODAY I AM ONE...

PLANT OF THE MONTH

The science of Taxonomy or classification of plants is often very confusing to the layman. While we enjoy and take special notice of a plant for its flower, color, and form, the Botanist busies himself with the more private and obscure parts. Plants in general are classified by seed and flower form, size, and characteristics in a nomenclature greatly divorced from the aesthetic qualities we delight in.

All of which is sort of a long way around to say that "a Rose by any other name.....etc". Echinocactus is one of the oldest genera in the Cactus family, and is one of the most worked over also. In the early days any plant, that had the appearance of a porcupine or was small and spiny, was lumped into this huge clan. Then one by one the Botanist would establish a new genus or subgenus and set 20 or 30 plants aside like brand new bright and shiny models. Such is the case with Notocactus. Originally it was a subgenus established by Schumann from the genus Malacocarpus which was instituted by Prince Salm-Dyke in 1849 from Echinocactus. All these plants very closely resemble each other in general appearance, differing only in shape and size of seed and configuration of of the reproduction system.

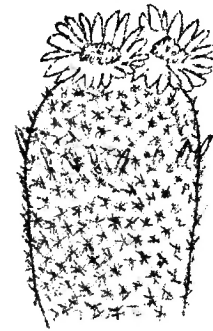
Tracing our names back, we find Echinocactus meaning porcupine or hedgehog in appearance; Malacocarpus from the Greek Malakos, for soft & Karpus, for fruit and has reference to the fleshy fruit or seed pods produced by these plants; and Notocactus from the Greek, Notos meaning Southern and Kaktos for spiny plant. This has reference to the fact that all Notocacti grow below the equator from the province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil to Northern Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay.

NOTOCACTUS SCOPEA (no-to-cac-tus sco-pa), the Plant of the Month, can be easily described by going back over the family tree and specific name. Scopoa comes from scoparia meaning bristly or broom-like; thus we have a little whisk-broom like hedgehog bearing soft fruit that lives in the deep South. It sounds almost too simple for this adorable little plant, which deservedly ranks as a top favorite with discerning collectors.

The plant bodies are at first globular, later they elongate and become cylindrical up to 6 inches in height and to 2½ inches thick. The
(con't next page)

PLANT OF THE MONTH (con't) ribs (30 to 35) are low and separated by furrows slowly ascending from the base in a clockwise manner. The areoles are closely set, white, and abundant with short wool when young; they bear 40 very slender soft white radial spines about ¼ inch long. Also there are 3 to 4 central spines which are longer and stronger with a brownish coloration at the tip.

The flowers borne near the center are 1½ to 2 inches across with acutely toothed petals of bright canary yellow. The stigma has 10 to 12 red lobes, and the period of blooms ranges from 5 or 6 days to a month reaching their apex in the late Spring. A sunny location is best, but partial shade should be provided during the hottest period of Summer. The soil mix should be fairly rich from 25 to 50% organic matter to sand; water freely during the growing season; but keep almost dry in the winter.



There are several Horticultural varieties; the two most popular are *N. scopa* var. *candida* with slightly pink tipped central spines and *N. scopa* var. *ruberrima* which has crimson red central spines. Also to be found, but very rarely are the magnificent cristate forms of both these varieties.

AEONIUM HAWORTHII (a-o-ni-um hay-worth-i) is a member of a family of sub-shrubs cultivated by the fanciers of succulent plants more for the leaf forms and color than for flower culture. However, the flowers which are borne on tufted panicles are quite showy; mostly yellow in color, but sometimes white and often pink in the various Horticulturally developed varieties. *Aeonium* from the Latin *aeon* meaning everlasting adequately describes these virtually indestructible plants. *Haworthii* is named in honor of Adrian Haworth, an English Botanist and early collector.

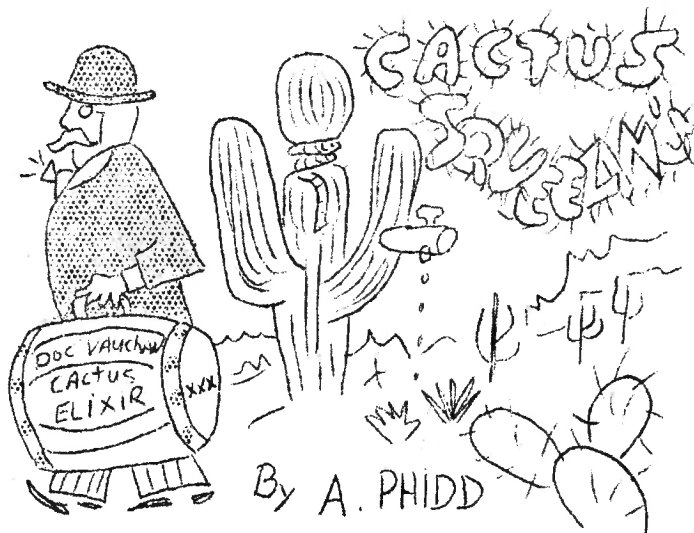


A. haworthii is a vigorous growing small shrub which attains a height of about 2ft.; it has a free branching habit which causes it to become a large cluster of bluish-green rosettes. The rosettes or leaves are produced on the tips of the somewhat woody branches, and are edged with a serrated horny substance that is reddish-brown in color. The underside of the leaves are slightly keeled.

The flowers are an eight pointed star freely opening and lasting many days. The natural time for blooming is late Spring and early Summer. This plant loves the full sun and thrives in medium rich soil with generous watering. All the *Aeoniums* come from the Atlantic and Mediterranean Islands off the coast of Africa with a few species found on the mainland itself. All require about the same care with a good rule of "thumb" being the broader the leaf the more shade desired.

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PLANT OF THE MONTH (con't) A plant that is often mistaken for *A. haworthii* is *A. decorum*. The difference is slight, with growth habit and flower the same. The leaf rosettes, however, are a brighter green, tinged with red and irregularly toothed without the horny substance along the margins. In the full sun the leaves develop a coppery cast. Other interesting varieties to add to your collection are: *A. urbicum*, *A. canariense*, *A. lindleyi*, *A. arboreum*, *A. tabuliforme*, & *A. psuedotabuliforme*



"A noise like of a hidden brook, in the leafy month of June; That to the sleeping woods all night, singeth a quiet tune."-S.T. Coleridge...what to do in June...Keep the garden growing free from pest and diseases... Speaking of freedom from pest...the sterile-male method is gaining popularity lately..however, we have it on good authority that BOB BUTLER is trying the technique in reverse...by putting virgin female insects inside traps,he hopefully expects the sex attraction will draw enough males to their destruction to effect satisfactory control..after the Sirens' call, Ulysses, what do we do for an encore.

Fluttering about the countryside, we find that TAYLOR's CACTUS GARDEN has a new sign(no, Bill, it's not one of yours)...this one is absolutely guaranteed to be reasonably vandal proof...the HARDIN's are back from a lengthy vacation...haven't seen, but supposedly loaded with goodies from the Florida area...BOB LAMP, sorry about mis-spelling your name(LAMB) in last month's issue..in your capacity at the Fair you probably feel like a lamb being lead to slaughter, but we're here to say that the Fair would be very "dim" without you...

NEMA TOED is on vacation this month..pretty nice..after being with us only a few months...at any rate we intercepted a bit of correspondence on her desk..This is from HARRY CHIN in Tunaville; Dear Nema, The film that we had the pleasure of viewing at our last meeting did not fully go into the wonders of KELP. Many people that visit the beaches have noticed an odor that is peculiar to rotting seaweed, which is Kelp. This odor comes from one or all of four of the greatest gifts to man--Iodine, Bromine, Fluorine, and Chlorine.

Just try to imagine doing the Monday wash without chlorine, think of what gasoline would be like without Ethyl bromide,the anti-knock compound, imagine the little ones teeth without Fluoride, and think of the millions of people who are alive today that would be dust under the sod, if it were not for Iodine. As a point of information, the orientals eat vast quantities of seaweed in their diet; it furnishes all the trace minerals so needed for GOOD HEALTH. It adds spice to soups and stews, but does nothing for Martinis, KIM. See you all next month...H.C.

NELLIE, you did a marvelous job of reproducing this column masthead on the cake at the last meet...hope Harold is feeling better and out of the hospital by now...why don't you retire him again so you can get the garden done... We would like to extend our sincere sympathy to CATHERINE WILCOX on the passing of her father, Jesse Wooster last month...When there is love in the heart there are rainbows in the eyes, which cover every black cloud with gorgeous hues..... A. Phidd