

SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Sunday Feb. 12

FEBRUARY 1984

Join us!

FEBRUARY MEETING and Other Good Stuff (in chronological order!)

12:30 PM Board Meeting for Everyone. Come and give your ideas. We'll meet right in the Auditorium of S. Coast Botanic Garden (26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula)

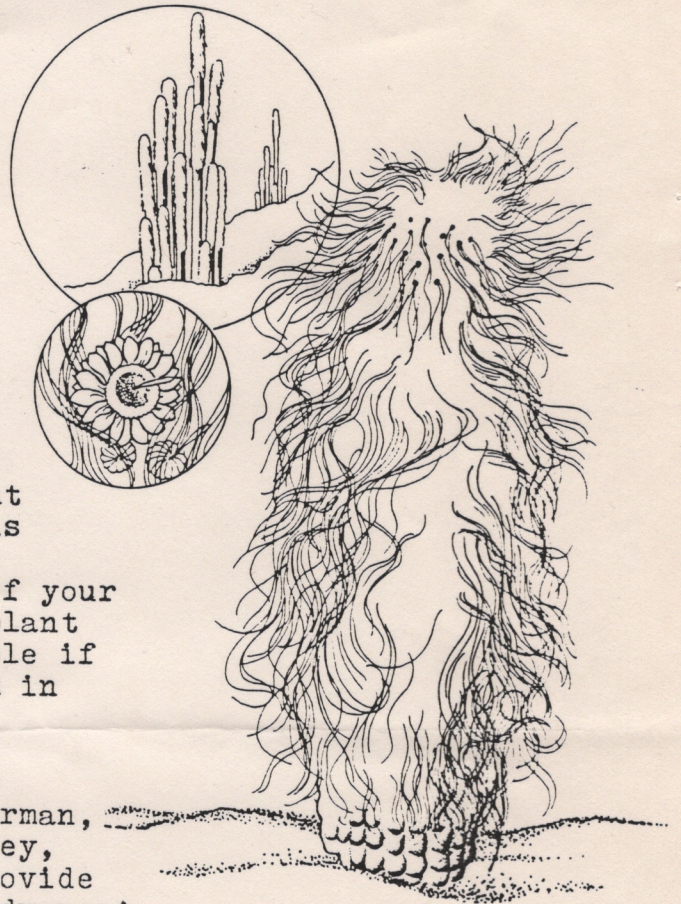
1:30 PM Meeting! - Again, right in the Auditorium, where Stan will be setting up, because at

2:00 PM Stan Oleson will give a talk for the S. Coast Garden members, the public, and all of us on "Why Succulents." He'll tell us about how succulents in about thirty diverse plant families got to be that way! - And why they're so different from their cousins. We'll see succulent lilies, and orchids, and geraniums on his display table as well as the better known cacti. We'll see how ages ago, geological changes helped develop the plants we love. We'll learn that the strange, hairy, unkempt beastie pictured on the right has not gone bonkers, but has a reason to look that way!

Stan will welcome any of your specimens from the various plant families for his display table if they're labeled! Bring them in and show them off!

Refreshments: Verna McCarty with the aid of Bert Muensterman, Margaret Brennan, Norma Holley, and Dorothy McArthur will provide the goodies. Thank you in advance!

Plant of the Month: Eve Workman reports that Anna Shadle will talk with us about the Holiday Cacti - Schlumbergera & Zygocactus. Many of these dainty epiphytes are blooming - bring them in and show them off! All this is part of our Plant of the Month series on Jungle Cacti which love to swing from or climb up trees.



* Cephalocereus senilis
* - One of the Old Men
* (This & other illustrations are from the
* Cactus Coloring Book
* by Stefen Bernath -
* Dover Pictorial Archive
* Series)

* * * * *

Rosters are ready! And will be given to all members at the meeting. Thank you to Norma Holley! (Late reneners, there's still time to pay dues! We'll include a renewal sheet for those not yet signed up - or see Norma at the meeting).

Bragging Table: Bring in your bloomers and show them off to members and an admiring public. Let's convert everyone cacti are the way to go!

4:00 PM

or so - Join Stan in the South Coast Cactus Garden for a bit of weeding and admiring. Lots of people will be visiting our garden during the nice weeks to come and the Fiesta will bring the multitudes! We want to show off! (The plants - not the weeds! Anyone can grow a good weed!)

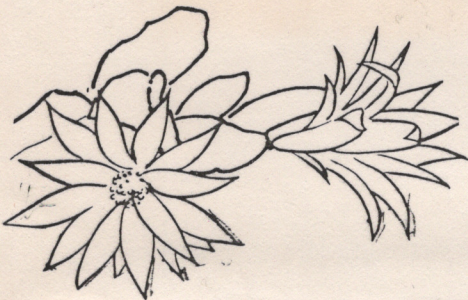
We won't be out long, but wear flat comfortable shoes and bring a sweater or jacket, some gloves, whatever is comfortable.

Stan reports: "It's fun working in THE GARDEN away from home...Where working together, the conversation, discussions, and observations of how well the plants do when they are taken out of pots and placed in the ground. Some of the plants have grown more than two feet in one year."

And if you can come at times other than meeting days, let Stan know.

A special thank you to the following people who joined Stan last Jan. 8:

Tom Rische
Zanera Myers
Dorothy McArthur
Eleanor Barker
Bert Muensterman and
Stan Oleson!



Plant Sale: The Club will have a tray of nice cacti and succulents in 4" pots for sale - come early before the public sees them!

CONTEST: We need drawings for the front cover of our Show flyer! More at the meeting!

And it would be great to have original drawings or cartoons for the newsletter! Just bring them to meetings or send them to your editor. I'm Carol Wujcik, 10860 El Mar Ave., Fountain Valley, Ca. 92708. My phone is 1-714-963-3146. Unfortunately this is LOCAL long distance which means the alternate long distance company rates don't apply, at least not yet and maybe never. Alas! Also, everyone should know that if you tell me info at meetings, I may get it wrong because I'm going hard of hearing! I do a lot of guessing and I often guess wrong! If you catch me in a mistake just let me know!

Jim Hanna Reports:

COMING ATTRACTIONS AT SCC&SS MEETINGS

March 11: Victor Turecek will speak on Argentina and its succulent inhabitants, all of which he knows well! He was born and schooled in Argentina and has returned often. He lectures and judges both in the US and abroad. Bring your questions!

April 8: Haworthia expert Guy Wrinkle will speak to us about S. Africa, habitat of some of our most amazing and most beloved succulents.



MARK THOSE CALENDARS.....Plant events this spring will be one mad whirl! Plan to enjoy!

April 20-22, San Gabriel Valley C & S Soc. Show & Sale, LA Arboretum. (Show open only to San Gabriel members). Moved up from their fall date.

May 6, Baldwin Bonanza, Annual Benefit Plant Sale, LA Arboretum, a biggie.

May 12 & 13, Fiesta de Flores, S. Coast Botanic Garden, plant sale, displays, etc. Also lots of people looking at our cactus garden! - our WEEDLESS cactus garden!

May 20, Long Beach Cactus Club Show and Sale - open to all hobbyists, Dominguez Adobe, 18127 Alameda St. Dominguez Hills.

May 20, Huntington Botanic Garden Plant Sale, for Members I believe. This has been moved up from its usual fall date also.

June 16 & 17, OUR OWN CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW AND SALE! Lots more info. to come

June 29, 30 and July 1, CSSA National Show open to all. Enter June 27 with judging June 28. Lots of good stuff for sale. (After all the preceeding sales, will anyone have any money left?!)

HAVE-WE-GOT-A-DEAL-FOR-YOU DEPARTMENT!

If anyone has plants for sale etc., please let your ed. know.

A member of the Orange County Cactus and Succulent Soc. has several large jade plants for sale - by large, we're talking 4-6 feet or so - pruned into a tree shape and starting for about \$35! Only thing is, you have to go and help dig it - then cart it away yourself! If interested, call Lloyd Miller.

Lloyd R. Miller
Landscape Designer

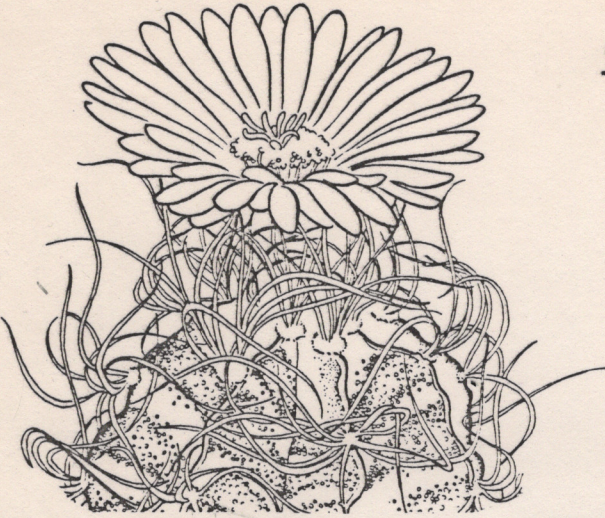


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The 1984 Question



Has everyone heard the question about being marooned on a desert island; and if you were, what one book would you take to read? Well, updating this for Orwell's 1984, suppose the "Government" decreed we could each keep only one cactus and one succulent. Which two would you cherish above all others?

I think I would choose a scurfy grey *Astrophytum* for its lovely blooms each year, its symmetry, its speckled body, and its thoughtful way of not (usually) curling up its toes (roots) and dropping dead. On the other hand, *Astros* generally don't seem to be self-fertile nor do they offset while growing on their own roots. At least mine don't. But I'd still choose an *Astro*. Maybe I'd even try to top it, reroot it, and force it to pup on its "lower" half.

I think I would choose a scurfy grey *Astrophytum* for its lovely blooms each year, its symmetry,

As for the one succulent - I'd choose one of the common leaf succulents - perhaps a fuzzy *Kalanchoe tomentosa* - the Panda - or an *Echeveria* hybrid, flower of all the succulents. Pushed to the wall, I'd choose the Panda. No, wait, the *Echeveria*.....

Also I'd plant some living stones high and dry - some *Lithops* and *Pleispilos*, and if questioned I'd say, "Plants? What plants? Do you see any plants, Officer?"

Which two would YOU keep? Would you keep the rare succulent and carefully nurture it for posterity? Or would you choose an easily propagated plant and populate a whole garden? Would you choose beauty? Or would you simply choose the one you loved most?

If you'd like, jot down your answer and give or send it to me, Carol Wujcik, 10860 El Mar Ave., Fountain Valley, C. 92708.



Carol

Alas, this will be the last news-letter for non-renewers!