

# SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

*Hope you feel better & enjoyed the reunion!*

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDENS

26300 Crenshaw Boulevard  
Palos Verdes Peninsula

September 1984 NEWSLETTER



COME TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING!

When: Sunday, Sept. 9, at 1:30 PM  
12:30 PM for Garden Mtg.\*

Program: Bob Causey will present his program titled POTPOURRI! It'll be about matters cultural - a little this, and a little that!

Bragging Table: Yes! Bring as many as want to come. And you'll know they want to come if they have that hey-look-at-me glow about them, whether they're blooming or not.

Refreshments: Verna McCarty (645-5009) reports that Sean Fleming, Dorothy McArthur, Bert Muensterman, and Dorothy Yakoubian will be bringing goodies! Thank you to all.

Plant of the Month: If we have time, Eve Workman will talk to us about blooming our Christmas cacti.

Sale Plants? Might be a few.

Library: Check those books out! Free info for the asking. See Bob. (For the books that is!)

1985 Show Schedule RE-CLASSIFICATION: Bring your ideas written or scribbled down to Bob Causey for discussion. Now's the time to put those grumbles into concrete suggestion form.

BE READY at the meeting to sign up for our bus trip - to Peck's and Woody's (who has some fabulous cacti in stock) and also to think about the nominating committee and such! Do you have a secret desire to be an officer? It doesn't do anybody any good to keep it secret!

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\* Come early, 12:30 PM, to discuss the Garden - that's our garden at S. Coast! For example, what do you think about the adopt-a-mound program? How should the garden be organized? Etc.? Doug Rawcliffe and Ed Hancock are now the co-chairmen in charge of the Club Garden.



PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER: Joycelyn Yee, [redacted]  
Torrance, Ca. [redacted]  
Special interests are Echeveria and Sempervivum.

It will be a tremendous help to new members, guests, and the forgetful if EVERYONE WEARS HIS/HER NAME BADGES. And if you see a new face, bring them into the conversation. Dare to speak first!



*E. Texensis.*

DID YOU KNOW - that MaryBelle Wallenhorst's recent guest from Australia said that it is possible to import plants into Australia - but they must undergo a 3 months quarantine. Oh how lucky we are!

PIX THIS MONTH are woodcarvings from Blanc's 1892 Illustrated Catalogue of Rare Cacti, A. Blanc & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.

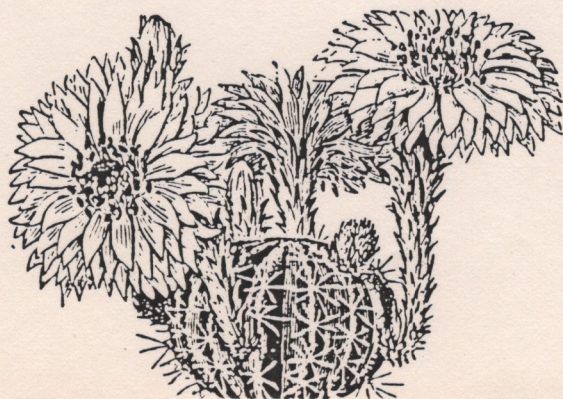
SERIOUS ABOUT LEARNING? On Sept, 22, a Saturday, the Huntington Botanical Garden will hold its first SYMPOSIUM ON SUCCULENT PLANTS: SUCCULENT PLANT SYSTEMATICS. Jim Dice reports that speakers were asked to address both botanists and the interested and knowledgeable hobbyists who will come. The talks aren't just for professionals, BUT they won't be cultural guides or geographical tours. Talks include: Reproductive Biology of Dudleya (Crassulaceae) - G. Levin. What we don't know about the Turbinicarpus/ Gymnocactus (Cactaceae) Complex - Charles Glass. Pollination Biology and Chemotaxonomy of Echinocereus (Cactaceae) - John Miller. Plus 2 other talks during the day, and that evening: Diversity in the Fouquieriaceae - James Henrickson, followed by a rare plant auction. \$22 for registration; lunch and dinner at the Huntington optional for \$10 and \$20 respectively. YOU may eat off the grounds. Contact James Dice, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, 91108, 818-405-2163.

HEAT TOLERANT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HUNTINGTON CACTUS GARDEN!

Has anyone NOT seen the fabulous cactus garden at the Huntington? Ever wondered who gets to weed it? It might be YOU! John Trager has issued a call for interested people to apply to volunteer to weed, pot, etc. weekdays. Whether outdoors or in the greenhouse, it'll be hot for awhile yet. But if you can take it, what you learn ought to make up for what you sweat! Anyone who has ever volunteered knows. Call John Trager at the Huntington.



*E. capricornis.*



Editor: Carol Wujcik, [redacted]

92/08. Articles, cultural tips, pix etc. welcomed.



TO KILL A WEED!

Am I the only one with certain plants and pots so overwhelmed by weeds that if I pull them I'll have to provide alternate shade for the plant? It's embarrassing but true that depotting seems to be the only way to get at some of these superweeds. Or is it?

Victor Turecek was joshing (I think) but there may be a quark of truth in his suggestion that you just withhold water from your succulents until the weeds die! (This method ought to do in the sciarid fly larvae as well)!

Ah, but I suspect some of my superweeds just might outlast the succulents. And besides, letting soil go dust dry can be lethal once normal watering is resumed. By then the hair roots are dead and plants can rot.

My husband Joe goes after some of these superweeds nestled between spines and next to plant bodies with needle-nosed pliers. My long-handled tweezers are good only for "light" jobs. And fingers grip well but bleed too easily.

Anyone have any tall weed tales? A weed so big and fearsome that.....

Carol W.

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Most of you may not know we have a newsletter exchange program with two other societies - the Henry Shaw Cactus Soc. in St. Louis and the Wisconsin C & S Club. From time to time we'll reprint something interesting or useful from these two newsletters. Also Bob Causey has loaned to me his extensive library of Journals - the oldies but goodies. Some of these should yield some good reading.

To start, we have some illustrated definitions which may prove useful. They're from the Wisconsin Cactus and Succulent Club Newsletter, V. 8, # 7, 8 - 1982, Pat Laursen editor and also the author I suspect. The author is unidentified.

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UNDERSTANDING PLANT DESCRIPTIONS AND KEYS

Have you ever tried identifying your plant by looking up it's description? If you were like me, the first time I tried it I came away from all those technical terms not knowing anything more than when I started. So you try a dictionary and find out that 'obovate' means inversely ovate. That still doesn't help you. The words convey no clear mental picture to be applied to actual cactus. What I am going to try to do, is to draw simple illustrations to show the meaning of the more common terms used in most keys and descriptions.



*Phyllocactus Ackermannii.*