



south coast

Cactus &
Succulent
Society

NEWSLETTER

March 1985

South Coast
Botanic Gardens
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula

Meeting Date: March 10, 1985 at 1:30 PM.

Program: Woody Minnich returns! With his program, OAXACA #7, he'll take us on an expedition deep into Mexico in search of Mammillarias and other spiny succulents!

Plant Sales: Members will have a chance to purchase some of Woody's Cactus Data Plants. Club supplies for sale too!

Refreshments: Verna McCarty (645-5009) reports that Peggy Cody, Bea Gonzales, Zanera Myers, and Florence Willis will be bringing the March munchies. THANK YOU!

Bragging Table: Lots of bloomers & good lookers at your cactus patch want to be brought to the bragging table. Don't disappoint them!

CONTEST: We need original artwork for our show flyer. Line drawings reproduce best. Enter more than one if you wish! Members will vote, and the winning artist gets a prize! We'll try to print most of the others in the N.L. if the artists agree.

C & S Garden: Doug & Ed will keep us up-to-date. Will the Garden be a TV Star? Will it be looking its best for Fiesta? Will no weed get a foothold? Stay tuned.....

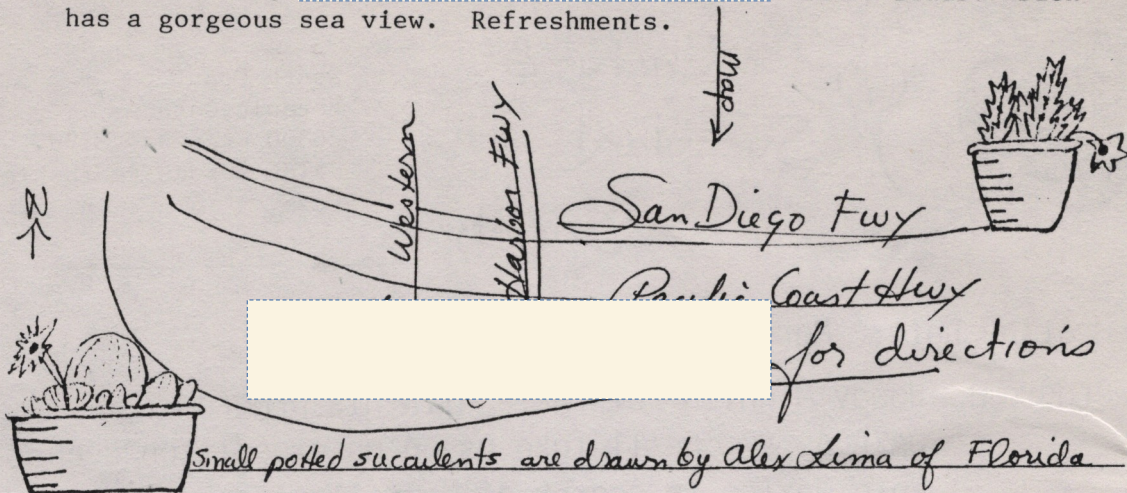
Library: Bob Causey reports there are now LOTS OF NEW BOOKS in the library ready to be checked out! Report on inside back cover.

Membership Update: Also on inside back cover.

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 24:

PLANT SALE: The South Coast Dahlia Society will hold a plant sale -- including lots of Echeverias, Epiphyllums, and other succulents, at Dick Kohlschreiber's home on Sunday, March 24th, from 1 - 5 PM, [redacted] Extra Bonus: Dick has a gorgeous sea view. Refreshments.



Also Sunday, March 24: Long Beach Cactus Club will have a program by Joyce and Harry Tate on the Economic Uses of C & S (not just Aloe vera!). 1:00 at the Iacoboni Library, 5020 Clark Ave. Lakewood.

Sunday, April 14: Our Club bus trip to Tegelberg's through desert bloom!

Sat. & Sun. April 27 & 28: LA Zoo Annual Plant Sale, 10AM - 4PM. Griffith Park on Zoo Dr. Probably a small charge to enter zoo. All kinds of plants

May 4 & 5: Fiesta de Flores at South Coast Botanic Gardens. All kinds of plants etc. for sale. Small charge to enter Gardens.

Sunday, May 5: Baldwin Bonanza at the Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Ca. from 9AM - 4PM. All kinds of plants for sale. Small charge to enter Arboretum.

Cover Drawing of Ceropegia woodii is by Karen Holley and was drawn for our March 1980 Newsletter.

Editor for this N.L. is Carol Wujcik, [redacted]



1985 CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA CONVENTION

Next Door in San Diego

JULY 8 - 12

Included with the N.L. this month is a convention info. insert reproduced from the Nat'l. Journal. I've added a few notes for clarification (I hope!), and Eleanor's drawings, and am also including info. re: joining CSSA & subscribing to the Journal. If you plant to go to the convention & stay in convention digs, BUT don't now get the Nat'l Journal & Newsletter, you'll want to read about the special deal offered - see pg. 3A. (However you don't have to be a member or stay in San Diego to go to the convention.) CW

MEMBERSHIP: If you haven't picked up your 1985 roster & your new membership card for your name badge, ^{holders} please see Norma Holley. And she asks that everyone wear the new badges!

There is an error in the Roster: Please change C.W. Elliott's address to 7937 from 7939.

Finally, it's with regret that we report the death of one of our newer members, John Ridgway. We wish we had had the time to get to know him better.

LIBRARY: Bob Causey has purchased the following books for our Club library. In order to bring these new titles each week, he asks that you give him a call if you wish to check out any of the CSSA Journals. Call Bob after about 4:30 at 675-5843.



DON'T MAKE OUR
LIBRARIAN GLOOMY!
LIGHTEN HIS LOAD.
CHECK OUT A BOOK!

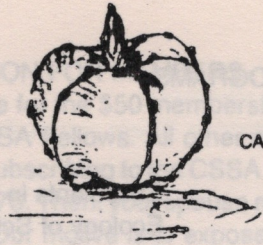
Cacti & Succulents by Chidamian (clear
concise language for the beginner)
Ceropegia, Brachystelma & Riocreuxia-Dyer*
Crassula, A Revision of the Genus-Toelken
(in Southern Africa)

Discocactus - Buining
Glossary of Succulent Plant Terms - Marshall & Woods
Monstrosity & Cristation in Succulent
Plants - Wolthuys (photocopy reprint)
Morphology of Cacti - Buxbaum
Pachypodium (and Adenium) Handbook - Rowley
The Sansevieria Book - Hermine Stover
Succulent Flora of Southern Africa - Court.

Recommended by Sylvia McTavish.

* (in So. Africa)

'85!
Cactus Convention



REGISTRATION FORM
CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY of AMERICA, Inc.

TWENTY-FIRST BIENNIAL CONVENTION
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
8-12 July 1985 San Diego, CA

READ INSTRUCTIONS ON FOLLOWING PAGES BEFORE COMPLETING FORM

Names: _____
(Print name & Society or City as you want them on your name badge)

Address: _____

Registration for members	_____ @ \$50.00
Registration for non-members	_____ @ 75.00
Non-SDSU Residents (MEMBER OR NOT)	_____ @ 75.00
For all after 1 May 1985	_____ @ 100.00

BUS TRIPS

Sunday, 7 July, CSSA Show & Sale in Arcadia	_____ @ 15.00
Wednesday, 19 July	
(1) North County Growers (box lunch)	_____ @ 15.00
(2) North County Growers (box lunch) & Wild Animal Park with dinner	_____ @ 47.00
(3) Huntington Botanical Gardens (box lunch)	_____ @ 15.00
(4) Huntington Botanical Gardens (box lunch) & Wild Animal Park with dinner	_____ @ 47.00
(5) Wild Animal Park with dinner	_____ @ 42.00

BANQUETS

Monday Non-SDSU Residents Opening Banquet	_____ @ 12.00
Friday Farewell Mexican Fiesta	_____ @ 10.00

ROOM & BOARD AT SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Single Occupancy	_____ @ 225.00
Double Occupancy	_____ @ 200.00
After 1 May 1985: Single Occupancy	_____ @ 250.00
Double Occupancy	_____ @ 225.00

GRAND TOTAL _____

Do you need special assistance? Smoking Non-Smoking

Make check payable to: CSSA Convention Committee
c/o Pat Mooney, Registrar → PAT MOONEY
97 'K' Street
Chula Vista, CA 92011

Be there!

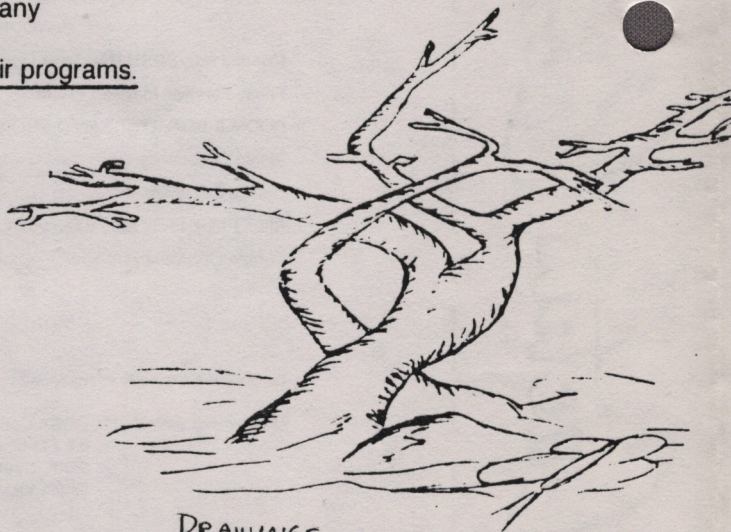
SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS

Dr. K. Johnson	New Zealand	Succulents in New Zealand
Richard May	Texas	Ecology of Sclerocactus
Dr. Michael Hawkes		Succulents of Pacific N.W.
Paul Thoma		
Henry Varney	California	Adromischus
Jim Dice	California	Dudleya
Susan Carter-Holmes	England	Euphorbias
Dr. Roberto Kiesling	Argentina	Carlos Spegazzini
		Cacti of Argentina
Dr. Charles Russell		The Versatile Prickly Pear
Dr. Charles Uhl		Crassulaceae
John Lavranos	South Africa	Succulents of Yemen
		Succulents of Socotra
Dr. Carlos Ostolaza	Peru	Cactu & the Ancient Peruvians
Dr. David Bramwell	Canary Islands	Origin & Evaluation of Canria Flora
		Canarian Succulent Flora
Dave Grigsby	California	Propagation
Dr. Kenneth Heil	Arizona	Cacti of the Desert S.W.
Dr. Lee Phelps	California	Succulents as Bonsai
Stephen Brack	New Mexico	Cacti of the Big Bend
Faith Campbell		Conservation
Dr. Allan Taylor		Hardy Cacti
Dr. Werner Rauh	West Germany	

→ This is a tentative list of speakers and their programs.

Martin L. Mooney
Convention Director
(ADDRESS P6. 1A)

Changes:



DRAWINGS
BY ELEANOR BARKER

REGISTRATION FOR MEMBERS

Those eligible for the \$50 membership registration are CSSA Active, Associate, Life members and CSSA Fellows. All other must pay \$75 registration. You may become an Active Member by subscribing to the CSSA Journal for \$20 and paying \$6 CSSA membership dues for a total of \$76. Then, your spouse may become an Associate Member for \$1, saving \$24 on registration. Our motive is to expose you to the CSSA Journal, one of the best, if not THE BEST publication of its type in the world. It is our belief that once exposed you will become a permanent subscriber. (YOU CAN SEND IT ALL IN ONE CHECK — SEE BOTTOM OF PG. 1A FOR ADDRESS ETC. — CW.)

NON-SDSU RESIDENTS

Those convention attendees who do not elect to take room and board at SDSU. The higher registration fee is necessary as the University charges a daily use fee for persons not registered as guests of SDSU. There are no hotels or motels near the University. We suggest that you contact our official Travel Agent: Deborah Chen, Universal Travel, 8888 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA, 92123-1193, 1-800-272-7888 to make hotel arrangements if you do not elect to stay at SDSU. She can also make travel arrangements for you.

BUS TRIPS

Sunday, 7 July: CSSA Show & Sale in Arcadia

Departs SDSU @ 9 a.m. and will return in time for dinner at SDSU. There will be a \$1.50 admission charge at the Los Angeles County & State Arboretum. Lunch is on your own.

Wednesday, 10 July:

(1) North County Growers

Departs SDSU @ 7:30 a.m. Box lunch is included for SDSU residents. Returns to SDSU in time for dinner. Tours to North County Growers will include stops at several nurseries both wholesale and retail to give you an opportunity to see how the plants are grown commercially and to meet the growers personally. Although time and space does not allow for plant sales, a number of these growers will be offering plants at the convention.

(2) North County Growers & Wild Animal Park With Dinner

Same as Trip #1 except, instead of returning to SDSU for dinner, will go to San Diego Wild Animal Park. Price includes park admission, monorail ride, deluxe dinner, authentic African entertainment with native dancers, plus all Park events and shows. This is a rather expensive item. However, it is a First Class entertainment package offered by the San Diego Wild Animal Park. No-host bar is available. Return to SDSU approximately 11 p.m.

(3) Huntington Botanical Gardens

Departs SDSU 7:30 a.m. Box lunch is included for SDSU residents. Return in time for dinner.

(4) Huntington Botanical Gardens & Wild Animal Park With Dinner

Same as Trip #3 except, instead of returning to SDSU, will go to San Diego Wild Animal Park.

(see #2 for details of Wild Animal Park)

(5) Wild Animal Park

Departs SDSU @ 4:30 p.m. (see #2 for details of Wild Animal Park)

BANQUETS

Opening banquet on Monday is included for SDSU residents.

Farewell banquet on Friday will be an outdoor Mexican Fiesta under the stars with live entertainment.

ROOM & BOARD AT SDSU

Check-in begins Sunday, 7 July any time after 10 a.m. The first meal at SDSU will be dinner Sunday evening. Your host society, the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society will provide a buffet lunch on Sunday. You must check out of the dormitory by 11 a.m., Saturday, 13 July. You will be provided accommodations of your choice, either single or double occupancy, three meals a day, and use of campus facilities. If you require special assistance, please inform us when returning your registration form and we will make every attempt to meet your needs. There will be no smoking sections of dormitories for those who object to smoking.

As an added benefit to conventioners, arrangements can be made to stay at SDSU a maximum of two weeks before the convention and/or extend your stay up to two weeks after. The cost is \$20 per room a day. Each room will accommodate two people. Arrangements for pre or post convention housing must be made directly through SDSU housing & Residential Life Office, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92180-0568. Average hotel rates in San Diego are \$76 per day for a double room. The use of the SDSU housing enables you to enjoy a super bargain vacation. Pre and post convention reservations must be made well in advance as rooms are limited and will be on a first come first served basis. Persons taking the Sunday bus trip to Arcadia are encouraged to check in to SDSU on Saturday due to the early hour of bus departure. Arrangements must be made for Saturday arrival through SDSU Housing & Residential Life Office.

Those not participating in the buss trips on Wednesday will find many activities in and around San Diego. There will be an Activities desk at the convention to assist you in planning your day.

In order to better to serve you, early registration is encouraged.

It is interesting to note that at the 1975 convention held in San Diego, the cost of a double room was \$26 per day. After ten years of inflation, we able to offer you room PLUS BOARD for only \$37 a day.

The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society looks forward to seeing you in July and are honored to act as your host.



(As you will be in a dorm, no individual room will have its own bathroom. Groups or clusters of rooms will share one, as I understand it; OR pay \$76 PER day + board for a private bathroom. CW

CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL
ABBEY GARDEN PRESS
P.O. Box 3010, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93105

SUBSCRIBING
MEMBERSHIP!

I wish to subscribe to the Cactus & Succulent Journal.
 One year - \$20.00 United States, Canada and Mexico
 One year - \$21.00 Other Foreign

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE () _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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SUBSCRIBE TO
"THE CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL" NOW!

WHY?

- The Journal is the finest magazine dealing with cacti and succulents published.
- The Journal will come to you every other month, loaded with articles appealing to the amateur, the collector, and the botanist.
- The articles by world-renowned contributors cover such subjects as conservation, culture, identification of plants and descriptions of new species.
- Special services to the cactus and succulent enthusiasts are advertised.
- Only Journal subscribers are eligible for membership in the C.S.S.A.!
- Large advertisement section.

JOIN THE C.S.S.A. NOW!!

(THAT'S CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA - OR CSSA!)

WHY?

- It's the finest association of cactus and succulent enthusiasts in the world.
- only ACTIVE members vote for Officers and Directors.
- Only ACTIVE members receive the CSSA Newsletter, edited by ELEANOR BARKER! ←
- Only ACTIVE members receive substantial discounts at the bi-annual Conventions. (The next one is in San Diego NEXT SUMMER!)
- Only ACTIVE members help promote CSSA educational and research programs.
- Memberships are on a calendar year (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31) basis. And all applications received after July 1 pay half the dues.
- C.S.S.A. is a non-profit, tax exempt organization.

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CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA. INC.

I am a subscriber to the Cactus & Succulent Journal and wish to become an active member of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc.

- One year - \$6.00 United States, Canada and Mexico
- One year - \$7.00 Other Foreign
- Associate member (Spouse) - \$1.00 Name _____
- Life member - \$400.00
- New Member Renewal - Membership number _____

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____

ACTIVE
MEMBERSHIP!

*Be a cosmopolitan
Cactophile!
Go National!*

'TIS THE SEASON FOR

SPRING FEVER & REPOTTING FRENZY!???

March 1: In other less favored parts of the country growers are still drinking the dregs of winter (cough, choke) while we're sipping the sweet, heady brew of Spring. Hee Hee Ho Ho Chuckle Chuckle!
(God may get us if we laugh too hard tho - in fact there may still be changeable weather; and with the sun on the move, there's always the possibility of sunburn and scorch.)

March 3: Yesterday it turned windy and cold. Then it thundered, stormed and hailed (pea size ice). The March lion roared. Mother Nature always has the last laugh!

Carol Wujcik in Fountain Valley

And now to the matter at hand -



FROM BOB CAUSEY: TIPS ON SOILS & REPOTTING

SOILS - When making soil mixes for succulents, it comes down to one rule. Soils must have friability (soil mixes must be porous). If in a six inch pot, water doesn't reach the drain hole in 15 seconds, the mix is too heavy. Another test for friability is to wet the soil mix, take a handful of soil mix, squeeze it, then release your hand. The mix must fall apart. If it stays a mud ball, the soil mix is too heavy.

REPOTTING - Jan., Feb., March, April as well as Nov., Dec. are not good potting months. Besides being cold & wet, most succulents during n.-Feb.-March-April are growing new feeder roots, and disturbing or breaking, forces the plant to start anew. Some will not give you new growth till the following year. The best time to repot is after flowering and the flowers have dried. These recommendations apply to southern California coastal regions (fifteen miles from the ocean).

RE: TRISODIUM PHOSPHATE - This is a cleaning compound which removes calcium and accumulations of salts on pots. Use it at a ratio of $\frac{1}{4}$ cup to 1 gal. of warm water or 2 tablespoons to a quart. Also it will remove scale on cacti when used with a small stiff brush. But it must be washed off after cleaning off the scale. Don't worry about it washing into the soil: it will act as a fertilizer. Trisodium phosphate may be purchased at Standard Brands Paint Stores. What you see in grocery stores may not be the real thing. Read the label.

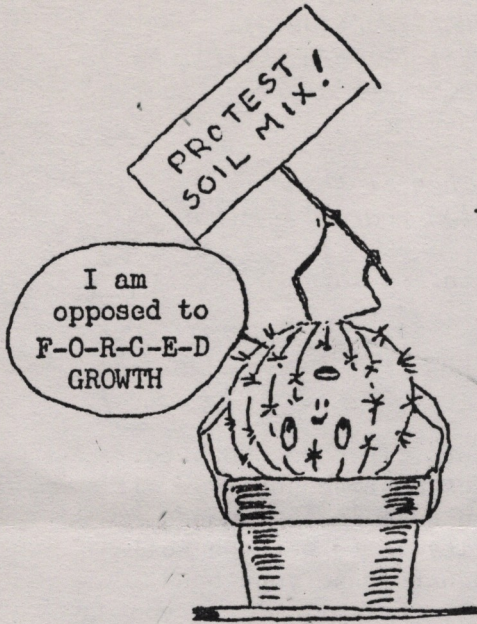
"Rowley Reporting" is from the Nat. Cact. & Succ. J., V. 36 No.4, Dec. '81 (See Back Cover). "Protesting Plant" is from the May '68 Espinasy Flores (San Diego).

ROWLEY REPORTING

Cacti, the individualists

Sessions at the potting bench prompted some thoughts on the odd behaviour of our beloved plants. Why does a seedling placed centrally in a square pot so often end up in one corner after a year? I don't object—it makes potting on easier—but it can look peculiar. Why do some retain a beautiful symmetrical crown while other slant drunkenly at the top?—*Notocactus leninghausii* is the classic example. Yet others (*Frailleas* at worst) go into strange pleats at the centre. Who dictates that offsets form a neat ring in some species and an ugly one-sided blob in others? And there is another piece of blatant self-advertising: growing one or two very long spines overtopping all the others (*Lobivia wrightiana* is my star performer at this). Then there are the pot-busters, like *Echinocereus amoenus* and *E. pulchellus* (if they are distinct, which I doubt). They run me up quite a bill in new pots, and always look a bit silly in an oversized container.

The conclusion, dear friends, is inescapable. As any phytopsychiatrist will tell you (for a fee), our beloved plants imitate their human protectors and just can't bear to be one of a crowd. Pack them rib to tubercle in the confines of a small greenhouse and each one positively yearns to declare its superiority and outshine its neighbours. When they sit motionless during the long winter rest season, do not be deceived. They are really just dreaming up new ways of showing off!



After Reading Rowley -

What puzzles me is how the plants manage to uncenter themselves in the first place. Granted, some probably are never centered to begin with, some shift when a pot is jarred, some grow or offset more to one side than another, but some seem to move all by themselves. Either they squirm about trying to get comfortable when we're not looking.....or.....

Have you ever seen the film or ballet fantasies of a children's room stocked with toys -- and then when the children drift off to sleep, the toys suddenly come to life and boogie all night? Well, do you suppose our plants do the same thing.....the hair-root types moving like centipedes and the succulent-root types bounding, stalking, thumping or inching (according to their natures) all night long, visiting one another and drinking dew-wine. Then when dawn comes, back to their pots they go, sometimes settling in off-center, sometimes (the *Haworthias* especially) having worn their roots to a frazzle! It would explain that tired hungover look some succulents have.....CW

The follow

Chaa

When it comes to cla
sible—or so we might
recalcitrant; algae is
dead leaves cling to
debris may seem ine
better not to assume

Mineral salts leach
build up on the outsi
is at first beneficial t
ally the pot becomes



To dissolve salts, im
them soak for two to
times to encourage
strations in the clay t
most of the salts.

After leaching cla
warm solution of dis
Arboretum, in Bost
this seems like prud
well.) If deposits res
with a knife and put
pots for months on
and long overdue fo
some reason you can
perhaps it contains a
disrupt during its do
glazed, watering its
one in a more porou
more opportune tim
and they will usually
sponge.

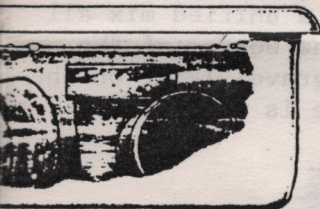
wing was distributed at the Orange Cty. C+S Soc.

STEP-BY-STEP Cleaning Clay Pots

Rosalie H. Davis

Clay pots, cleanliness is next to impossible to think. Salts are crusty and slimy and stubborn; dried-on dirt and clay with a limpet-like tenacity. This is inert enough and even benign, but it is

leech out of tap water and fertilizers and inside of a clay pot. Though this process is slow to the plants growing in the pot, gradually "glazed" by the deposits and thereby



immerses pots in hot water and let them soak for four days. Change the bath several times to allow diffusion of salts from the high concentration to the purer water. This should remove

Clay pots, scrub them with steel wool in a hot water bath with dish detergent and water. (The Arnold's method, uses whichever one is on sale, and the best advice for the home gardener is to remain after scrubbing, scrape at them and let the pot back to soak. You can soak for a day; with those that are highly salted or for a leaching, it may take several. If you can't clean a pot full of salts right away—a delicate orchid that you don't want to harm—at least treat the pot as an occupant less often than you would use a clay pot. Then clean the pot at a later date. Plastic pots don't need leaching, they come clean easily with a warm sudsy



less and less able to drain away excess water and harmful salts. Eventually it loses much of the porous quality that made it so attractive in the first place. Colonies of algae also contribute to the pot's declining porosity. (Incidentally, algae's growth on a pot should serve as a warning that the plant within is being overfed and overwatered.)

Often, a pot is empty because its previous occupant perished. Soil and dead plant tissue that remain in an abandoned planter can harbor pests and disease. In the long run it is more resourceful to clean a dirty pot before reusing it, rather than risk the problems that using a dirty one may bring. Aside from all these practical reasons for cleaning pots, there is some satisfaction in seeing a clay pot freed from layers of garden grime and restored to its original new-brick color.

It is really quite a simple job to soak, scrub, and sterilize a modest collection of clay pots, and plastic requires even less work. (As an added precaution, wash newly purchased pots, too.) All you need are ordinary items gathered from kitchen cupboards: an enamel or plastic tub for leaching clay pots, rubber gloves, dish detergent and steel wool to wash them, household bleach to disinfect them, and, of course, water.



The fungi that cause damping-off, nematodes that live among roots, and a host of other soil-borne organisms and minute pests sometimes survive the scrub. So after washing pots, be on the safe side and disinfect them in a 10-percent solution of household bleach (9 parts water to 1 part bleach). Although the active ingredients of bleach evaporate in the open air, this somewhat unstable solution should sterilize all pots soaked for 10 to 20 minutes. Change the bath for each batch of pots, and wear gloves to protect your hands. After disinfecting, rinse all pots thoroughly, for bleach is corrosive.

Crocks and pebbles being reused should also be cleaned, but don't bother to scrub each little piece. Put them all in a plastic colander and place it in the water bath to soak; then swish it in the suds, soak in the bleach solution, and rinse.

Instead of a bleach solution, you can use a horticultural-grade disinfectant to clean pots, tools, plant tags, benches, and other equipment. Though more expensive than bleach, they are generally less corrosive. Whatever one you use, always air-dry sterilized pots and crocks so that you don't introduce any new germs from a towel.

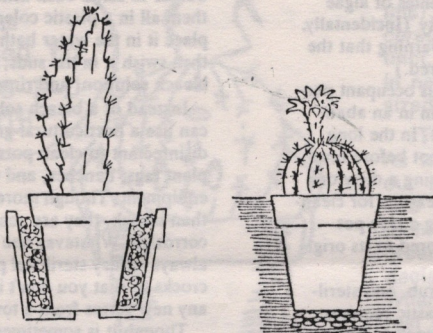
Though it is sometimes advised to sterilize pots by boiling or baking, these methods waste energy, and plastic pots will not stand much heat. Moreover, the presence of algae on pots should be enough to discourage anyone from trying either recipe, for, steamed or baked, algae makes a kitchen smell like a frog pond. ❖



The following is from Scott Haselton's *Cactus & Succulents and how to grow them, a handbook of the Desert Botanical Garden, Science Bulletin No. 5, pp. 20 & 21.*

The purpose of repotting is to *replace worn out soil* or to provide more space for roots. In some cases application of food (leaf mold, manure, or prepared plant food) may temporarily take the place of repotting. Small plants grow better when planted together in a large pot or preferably a wooden tray which prevents too rapid drying out. Miniature pots can neither retain moisture nor sufficient food supply for the smallest plant.

It is easier to transplant or repot plants during their growing season; however, there is a danger of blighting the flowers unless repotting takes place after the flowering season.



Drying out of clay pots may be prevented by placing one pot within another (left) or plunging the pot in soil or box of sand (right).

When first potting collected plants or large specimens, especially cacti, inspect each plant carefully before potting. If the roots are broken, cut them off above the break with a clean, sharp knife and dust with powdered charcoal, sulphur, or "Semesan" to prevent infection. All damaged and especially fibrous roots should be removed just below the plant body. Only one in ten will follow this last instruction because one hates to de-root a plant; but experience will eventually prove that a plant will re-establish itself sooner by growing a new set of healthy roots. Always trim off diseased roots.

NURSERY RHYME - POTS

I hate all pots, they cramp me so
My wriggly roots they won't let grow
Into the damp and sweet rich earth
And so instead a thing of worth
You see a ragged, stunted plant . . .
That wants to bloom, but now it can't.

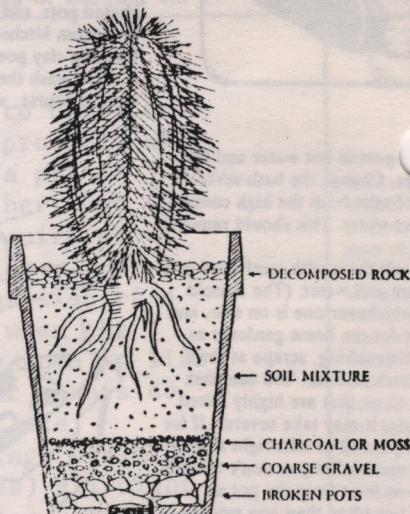
H.R.B.

Poem at right
is from the
Dec. 1946
DESERT PLANT
LIFE.

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society 1985 SHOW SALE PLANTS:

Many of these are donated by YOU - aim for a dozen if possible! We need your help! So you can start rooting cuttings and offsets now, free pots will be available at the March meeting from the Hancocks. REPEAT, THESE ARE FREE - AS LONG AS THEY COME BACK AT SHOW TIME PLANTED AND PRICED! And labeled if possible! Labels will also be available at the meeting along with the free pots.

The following drawing from the Haselton Handbook, p. 23, represents the old thinking on how to layer potting ingredients. Newer thinking is that it's best to have a unified mix all the way to the bottom of the pot - tho a gravel layer on the mix's surface is ok.



How often should you repot?
Rowena Thompson says that generally she repots every two years. Seedlings maybe more often.

At our show last year, Eve Workman's *Hamatocactus uncinatus* was one of the grand prize winners. In England, the plant's taxonomic status has caused problems, hence the little article reproduced here. It's from the Natl. Cactus & Succulent Journal, V. 36/4, Dec. 1981. This Journal has since merged to be part of the British Cactus and Succulent Journal.

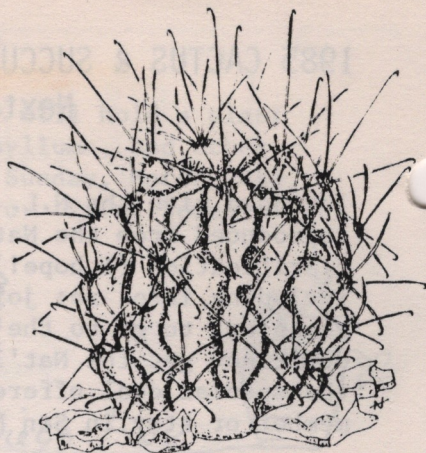
ECHINOCACTUS UNCINATUS

Drawing by N. Houston

Accustomed as we are to the wavering of botanists when confronted by a plant which refuses to conform to their man-made systems of classification, it still comes as a surprise to follow the wanderings of this poor plant from one uneasy generic home to another. Originally described as *Echinocactus uncinatus*, it has since been placed in *Ferocactus* by Britton and Rose, *Echinomastus* by Knuth, *Hamatocactus* by Borg and Buxbaum, *Thelocactus* by Marshall and Bock, *Glandulicactus* by Backeberg and *Ancistrocactus* by Benson. The wheel has now turned full circle with Nigel Taylor's proposal to include it within the subgenus *Ancistrocactus* of an amplified genus *Ferocactus*.

This in itself is no great problem. The grower has freedom either to choose the most convincing argument and to give that name to the plant, or to provide financial support for the label industry by making frequent changes. Whichever approach is adopted, the plant itself will be quite unconcerned. Difficulty arises, however, if the grower wishes to enter his plant in a show.

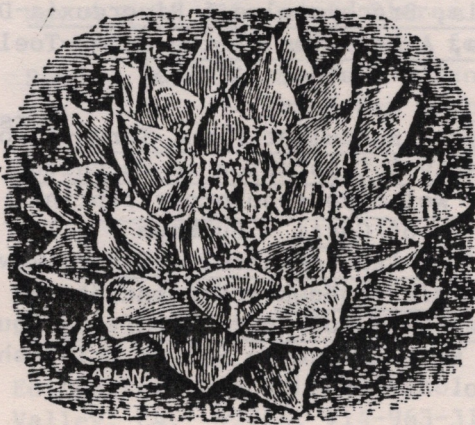
If the name on the label is *Echinocactus*, *Ferocactus*, *Echinomastus* or *Hamatocactus* the plant appears to be eligible for classes designated for the Echinocactus Group. On the other hand, if the label reads *Thelocactus*, *Ancistrocactus* or *Glandulicactus* the plant appears to lie within the



circumscription of the *Thelocactus* Group. Fortunately, what appears to be an impossible state of affairs is speedily resolved by consulting the 'Guide to Shows and Exhibitions'. There the Shows Committee has published its decision that for the purpose of exhibition the plant will be recognised as being a member of the *Thelocactus* Group. This recognition does not imply that any one of the taxonomic proposals is preferred to the others, but only that the judges will expect to see the plant in this class rather than in any other.

W.C.K.

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