

# Newsletter

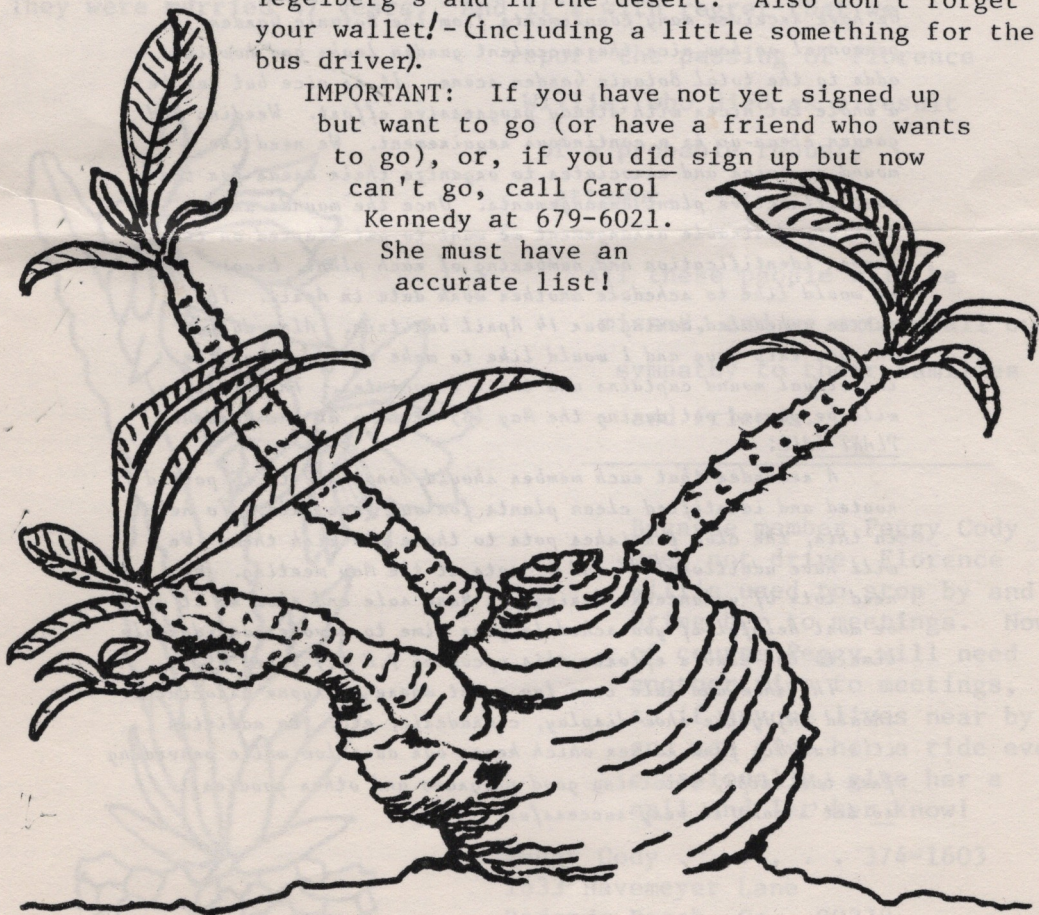
APRIL 1985

BUS TRIP TO TEGELBERG'S! Sunday April 14, 1985 8 AM sharp!  
Return by 5 PM.

Meet in the parking lot of the South Coast Botanic Gardens  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Penin.

Bring sack lunch, and whatever you need to be comfortable (ie. sun block, old shoes, etc.) Maybe you'll want to bring a camera as there should be lots of bloom at the Tegelberg's and in the desert. Also don't forget your wallet! - (including a little something for the bus driver).

IMPORTANT: If you have not yet signed up but want to go (or have a friend who wants to go), or, if you did sign up but now can't go, call Carol Kennedy at 679-6021. She must have an accurate list!



*South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society*

from Ed Hancock:

GARDEN PROJECT AND PLANT SALE NEWS

GARDEN PROJECT :

Saturday 23 March '85 we had a successful work session in the Garden where twelve volunteers turned out. It was a beautiful day and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The fellows completed the pathways (resurfacing), accomplished some large plant transplanting and needed trimming. The ladies, Carol Kennedy, Virginia Russell, Dorothy Yakoubian and Roz Hancock accomplished a large number of plant transplantings and much needed weeding. This is a favorable time of year to get our garden in shape for the Spring and Summer flowering. We have received many compliments from the Botanic Garden personnel on how nice the succulent garden looks and how it adds to the total Botanic Garden scene. It is nice but can be a whole lot nicer with steady progressive effort. Weeding and garden clean-up is a continuous requirement. We need the mound captains and associates to organize their areas for the most attractive plant arrangements. Once the mounds are in a fairly desirable arrangement we want to get started on the proper identification and numbering of each plant. Ergo: we would like to schedule another work date in April. This can be scheduled during our 14 April bus trip. Also during the bus trip Doug and I would like to make an update of the individual mound captains and their associates. This listing will be passed out during the May '85 meeting at the Garden.

PLANT SALE:

A reminder that each member should donate 12 to 15 potted rooted and identified clean plants for our June sale. To help in this, the club furnishes pots to those who wish them. We will have additional 4" and 6" pots at the May meeting. We need lots of volunteers during our June sale and show so it will be most helpful if you schedule your time to devote considerable time to the club's efforts this upcoming 7, 8 & 9 June '85.

The show and sale is a fun event where everyone associated should enjoy the show display, camaraderie, etc. In addition it's our big fund raiser which keeps our dues low while providing free bus trips, obtaining good programs and other goodies so let's make it very successful.

## A TIME TO REMEMBER

MAMIE ABERCROMBIE

GLADYS AXCELL

FLORENCE WILLIS

We have lost three long time members of the cactus community, all within the past month. Gladys Axcell was a mainstay of the Club and was much loved. Mamie Abercrombie, wife of Waldie Abercrombie, was active in the hobby in the 1930's and '40's. In recent years she had left the cactus growing to Waldie, who is at present active in the Long Beach Club. They were married 47 years. And it's with regret that we

report the passing of Florence Willis, who died as a result of a probable robbery attempt.

All these people will be missed, and we extend all our sympathy to their families and friends.



Because member Peggy Cody does not drive, Florence Willis used to stop by and bring her to meetings. Now of course Peggy will need another ride to meetings, so if anyone lives near by and can give her a ride even occasionally, give her a call and let her know!

Peggy Cody . . . . .



### THE SHOW - A MEMBER'S VIEW

What is the Annual Show all about? I think it's what Mollie Sheffield told me last year, my first Show. "It's not the ribbons and it's not the awards. It's sharing plants you love with others. Bring those you like and think that others will enjoy. If you get a ribbon, fine. If not, that's okay, too."

It did not take me long to find out that Mollie was right.

There probably are some members who are concerned with only the number of ribbons they win, but I noticed that most were congratulating others and commenting on the beauty of the plants of a friend, acquaintance or stranger, and asking about soil, growing conditions and the like.

Come to think about it, I have never met a selfish plant person. There must be some of them out there, but I have not come across them.

Have you noticed how often articles in the newspapers describe Bromeliads as "the true air plants...no problems...no pests...easy to grow"? Oh, they will exist under conditions of neglect but the plants in this Show were not ignored. They were grown by concerned people who did the best they could to simulate their native habitats.

And, they did not just pick them up and bring them in. They spent hours cleaning and grooming. Some people can even carefully trim bad ends, a talent I have never developed. All this grooming is tough on the hands. When I got a serious reaction from too much bacteria under the skin, my doctor prescribed Betadine Skin Cleaner to degerminate and Neosporin Ointment to kill the bacteria. (That information cost me \$18.00. You get it for nothing.)

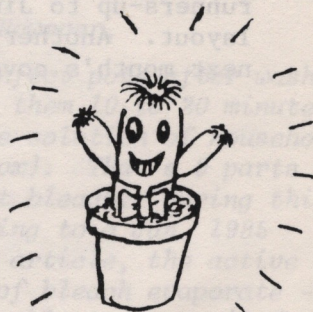
It is fascinating to watch the Show go together. With only a few slack minutes now and again, the Center is a beehive of activity. First the bare tables are set up. Members are covering the tables while the registration and classification people are identifying plants, helping with the entry cards and determining the proper categories. Others are bringing the plants to the showroom.

The placement committee is starting the monumental job of putting the plants in their proper places. Since no one knows how many of what plants will come in, virtually every one will be moved four or five times before the Show opens.

Commercial members are setting up their displays that add so much to the Show, while the very talented Bill McKenzie and friends are assembling the dramatic stage display that pulls the whole thing together. Add the people working in the kitchen and the plant sales room, those planning the awards and the judging, and only fourteen hours later you've got a Show to be proud of.

If there is any message in this article, it is that the more you participate in and contribute to your Bromeliad Society, the more you get out of it. Try it. You'll like it.

...marc fite



Show Chairperson Norma Holley wants to know: WILL YOU BE READY  
WHEN SHOW TIME COMES???????????????????????????????????? SURE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

As the above drawing by Eleanor Barker for our April 1974 N.L. illustrates, it's time to clean pots and groom plants for the June show. "Delouse" plants and pots so no wildlife or disease comes to the show! Transplant if necessary. Are those plant name tags readable? If not, it's time to make new ones. Don't forget the area surrounding the plant. Have fresh, clean, raked soil or topdressing.

Be sure to pick up one entry form for each plant exhibited. Please PRINT all information on these forms. Number and list all exhibits on entry registration. Pink forms are for advanced exhibitors. Green forms are for novice exhibitors. Use the new horticultural classification for division # and class#.

Show floor plans have to be submitted to the Gardens; therefore, any special exhibits for the show must make arrangements with me no later than the regular meeting date May 12th.

Pick up several of the show/sale advertising flyers and give them to friends. If your friends are tired of your cactus club news, then slip a flyer under a windshield wiper on the cars next to yours when you go out shopping. Let's spread the word!

Norma Holley,

## 1985 SHOW FLYER CONTEST

The illustration below and on the memorial page are by C.W. Elliott, and with Zanera Myers' entry (on the cover of this N.L.), are runners-up to Jim Hanna's winning show flyer layout. Another entry by C.W. will appear on next month's cover.



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# THE POTTING SUPPLIES

## AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

GROWERS LIKE:

'Grow', fertilizer

Purpose Planting Mix, to provide the organic in a potting mix.

provides lightweight drainage and aeration.

, same as above but heavier & more moisture retentive.

gra, for topdressing.

SOURCES: (Prices may vary A LOT).

ells LGM & unglazed high fire stoneware long with plants.

ounty Farm Supply, 1826 W. Chapman in range, near intersection of Santa Ana and Garden Grove Fwys. 714-978-6500.

ries pumice (75 lb. bags)

Liquinox 'Grow'

insecticides etc. etc. etc.

but NOT LGM

ery, 3842 E. 10 Street in Long Beach, 3-433-7413. Carries:

some LGM products including leafmold

Liquinox 'Grow'

some sort of ready-made cactus mix but NO pumice

Supply (see yellow pages) carries: builders' sand (Be sure it's washed), silica sand (#16 or #20 I believe - the biggest available) river rocks (flat) & other rocks

tores, for top dressing (natural stone, (not the plastic-coated stuff.)

Superthrive (vitamins, hormones to ist fertilizers).

## TO DISINFECT OR NOT TO DISINFECT?

I now disinfect only if I suspect nasty things like nematodes may linger after washing - unless I'm in a perfectionist mood and want to be absolutely sure everything is sterile. Such a mood strikes less and less.....CW

However,

To disinfect pots after washing, you can soak them 10 to 20 minutes in a 9 to one solution of household bleach (clorox). That's 9 parts water, 1 part bleach. During this time, according to a Jan. 1985 Horticulture article, the active ingredients of bleach evaporate - so you won't be able to reuse it for the next batch of pots. Rinse pots after soaking. And be sure to wear protective gloves when working with the bleach solution!

## OTHER SUPPLIES:

Small polished flat stones - Pier One

Bonsai pots - see yellow pages under nurseries & look for ads featuring bonsai

Perlite - Buy anywhere (contains fluoride)

Kitty litter - buy anywhere. Will take the place of sand.

Other possible sources for Liquinox:

H & H Nursery, E. Wardlow, L.B.

Kitano Garden Shop, E.Spring, L.B.

Beck Lumber & Hardware, Carson

Andy's Nursery, E. Artesia Blvd.

Artesia

Be sure to call first just in case re: these last four sources.

## CALENDAR

Most calendar items are listed one time only.

1. April 11 - Two on the Town, 7:30 PM - footage tentatively scheduled of S. Coast Botanic Garden.
2. April 14 - Our bus trip to Tegelberg's through desert bloom!
3. April 20 & 21 - S.C. Horticultural Institute Show & Sale, 3201 Riverside Drive, L.A. - free parking and admission. Sat. 12 - 5 & Sun. 10 - 5. (off the Golden State Fwy., vicinity of Griffith Park & Los Feliz)
4. May 1 - Prices go up for the CSSA Convention '85! So register with the Mooneys this month. See last month's insert for details.
- ➔5. May 12 - Board Meeting at 12:30 P.M. before regular 1:30 meeting.
6. June 7, 8 & 9 - OUR SHOW set up and opening!  
from Norma: We need 2 salads, one tossed green and the other macaroni, for the judges & clerks plus club officers' luncheon. We also need 3 desserts: pies or cakes especially!  
from our Sales Chairmen: Remember your donated plants! Pot up your extras, your seedlings, your cuttings!
7. Huntington Library & Gardens
  - a. May 7, Tuesday, is the day the Huntington is aiming at to open the new 30' by 100' Conservatory (super greenhouse) for succulents too tender or rare for the outside garden. It's scheduled to be open for 2 hours each day the Huntington is, but plans are tentative. And be sure to call first especially on weekends until things get settled. The two hours likely will be from 2 - 4 PM. The Conservatory is under the direction of John Trager.
  - b. May 12, Sunday, from 9 to 4 PM, there will be an Invitational Plant Sale for members only, but a few extra invitations are available to the general public by application and SASE. Write Plant Sale Dept. C, The Huntington, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino Ca. 91108.
  - c. June 25, Tuesday, 2:30 PM, John Trager will give a talk to the public about the new Desert Garden Conservatory. (see a.)



# The Huntington

If anyone receiving this N.L. hasn't yet been to the Huntington's Desert Garden, well, waste no time; you're in for a treat! And the desert garden is but one of many at the Huntington. In fact, these botanical gardens make up one of the great gardens of the world. And then there's the Huntington's famous library and art collection. But who has time for mere roombound culture when there are gardens to partake of and cactus to see?!

Phone: 818-405-2100 and 818-405-2273 (re: Sun. tickets).

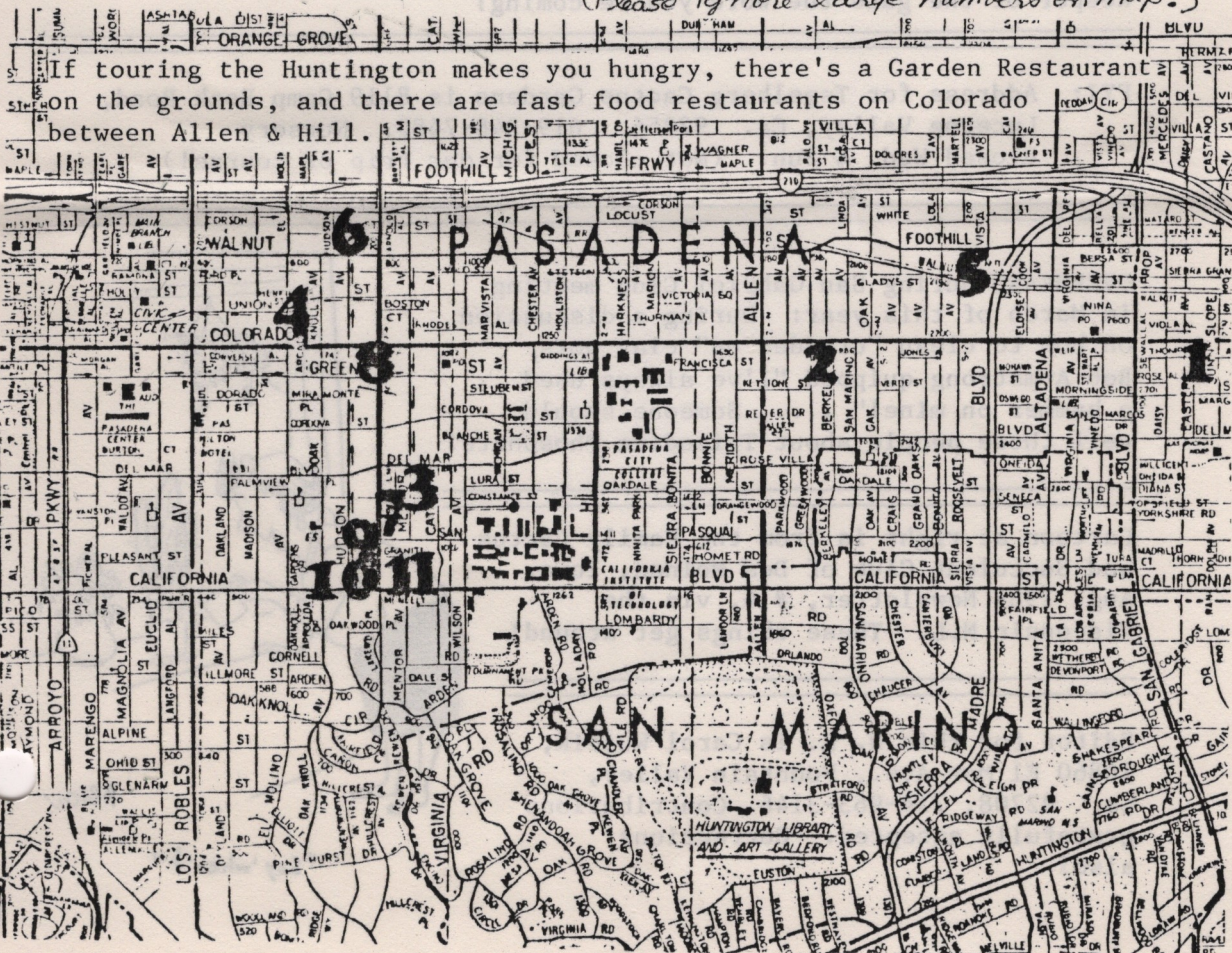
Admission: free (but Sunday reservations must be made in advance.)

Hours: 1 - 4:30, Tues. - Sun. (CLOSED MON. & major holidays).

Location: 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, Ca. 91108

The Allen Ave. approach is the most direct.

*(Please ignore large numbers on map.)*



ROSTER ADDITIONS:

- New Members: 1. Larry Grammer phone # [redacted]  
[redacted] Gen. Cacti & Euphorbias
2. Stephen Reinhardt phone # [redacted]  
[redacted] Echeveria, Dudleya, Sedum
- 

Temporary Address Change:

Audrey and Darryl Tucker are living at Rancho Los Alamitos, and the address there is [redacted], phone [redacted]

CALL FIRST IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME BY AND VISIT!

Rancho Los Alamitos, although a historical site, happens to be located in a gated community, and the Tuckers have to give the keeper of the gate the word you're coming!

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FYI: Address for Tegelberg Cactus Gardens is 8119 Camp Rock Road, Lucerne Valley, Ca. 92356. 619-248-7482. Nursery closed Wed. & Sun. (Not closed for our trip of course!)

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OVERHEARD during San Gabriel Club meeting in March of this year: During a discussion on how to clean "crudded up" clay pots, Bob Armstrong quipped "I've always used a hammer on mine!" .....Someone should tell those people about Trisodium Phosphate!

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Cartoon at right is from the Family Cactus and Succulent Club of Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 1984 Newsletter, # 6, via the Wisconsin N.L. These things get around!

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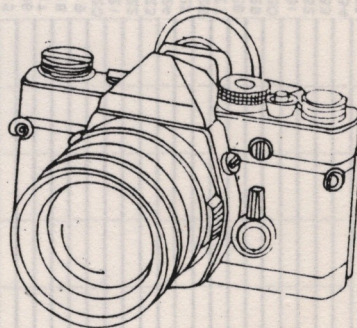
Editor for this N. L. is Carol Wujcik, 10860 El Mar Ave., Fountain Valley, Ca. 92708, 714-963-3146. Contributions gratefully accepted. Corrections also!



"Say 'when'!"

## Making a Better Picture

by Helmut Broogh



Every photographer knows that there is far more to photograph on holiday than at home. Wherever you like to go in the whole wide world there are always cactus and succulent collections to visit, with fine specimens you would dearly like to photograph. But it would be a great pity, and a wasted opportunity, to record outstandingly beautiful plants with only ordinary snapshots.

Make it a rule to take your full photographic kit with you on all occasions, taking everything necessary for getting the best results—close-up lens, tripod, cable release, lens hood, flash-gun or flash bulbs, light-meter (unless you have one built-in in your camera), filters and so on. These things are in no way luxuries but are absolutely essential! Remember too to take some spare batteries and a small notebook, so that later you can check on what you actually photographed. You should record the names of places and people as well as those vitally important plant names. Otherwise you really will be in the soup, not knowing just what it was you photographed. I speak from bitter experience!

All the equipment just mentioned is as important for your trip as the rail and air tickets, hotel bookings, passport, insurances and so on. Ideally one ought to draw up a list of everything beforehand and tick off each item so that nothing is forgotten. This is a great help.

Buy all the rolls of film for your trip well in advance and from a reliable supplier. I would suggest that you buy 50% more than you think you want, for if you only need to buy one more roll during your holiday it means that you didn't take enough with you in the first place. It is much better to have a few too many and bring some back unused than to have to buy extra films which may not be entirely reliable. It is possible to slip up badly buying films on holiday and when you get back home again you may discover that you were sold film which was old stock or had been badly stored. Every time you buy a film, check its expiry date. This is printed on the outside of every carton of film and shows you exactly how old it is. And do make sure you are getting the right sort of film—transparency or negative—because it is very easy to make mistakes.

If you are travelling by air you must appreciate that your baggage will be checked for weapons etc., which means that all your photographic material will be X-rayed. Do not believe the airport officials who will assure you that X-raying will not damage your films. It does damage them. In fact it affects them considerably and they will end up over-exposed. A great help here is a special film bag lined with lead foil which shields the film from X-rays. Unfortunately these bags are not cheap, but if you think of the consequences of your stock of films being spoiled, it is surely well worth acquiring one. Better safe than sorry!

You will also need to protect your camera and films if you travel to the coast or to places where there is a lot of sand or dust. Don't underestimate the damage that can be done by sand or moisture. Use individual plastic bags to pack all your equipment items—ordinary household plastic bags will do—they cost next to nothing and give excellent protection. Having your camera cleaned of sand, dust or rust is an expensive business!

Your camera and accessories need to be protected from sunlight. Never leave equipment lying out in the sun when not in use, for that can lead to really serious damage, believe me. There are other hazards too when cameras are left lying around. You may not realise that there are thieves about. In some countries where tourism is a major industry there are many people interested in stealing expensive cameras. The sale of such a camera can bring in more money than several months of manual labour (and there may well be very little work available anyway). Always bear this in mind. Camera thieves are specialised professionals with nimble fingers and they will snatch your camera at the slightest opportunity.

Much care needs to be taken when you are changing your film. Always do this in the shade, if there is any, but if there is no shade (if you are in the middle of the Sahara, for example) then change the film in the shade of your own body. That's better than no shade at all. Make this an invariable habit and you will soon do it automatically.

If you are taking a newly-bought camera with you it is a good idea to try it out thoroughly at home first, to avoid possible disappointment later. The same applies to all the technical equipment—the flashgun, light-meter and close-up lens should all be tested out carefully before your trip. Taking a chance and hoping for the best is simply foolish.

Let me remind you once again of my suggestion of taking one picture on each colour film of a card showing your name and address. Out of the millions of films sent for processing by amateurs every year, some go astray *en route*. With your address actually on the film you do at least have a chance of getting a lost film back. It is a very bad blow to lose an exposed film, for there may be pictures on it that you will never be able to take again.

And last but not least . . . make sure you don't overload yourself with unnecessary equipment. I mention this because there are some amongst us who, in their zeal for photography, sometimes overlook this. If you are overloaded with equipment half the pleasure of photography is lost.

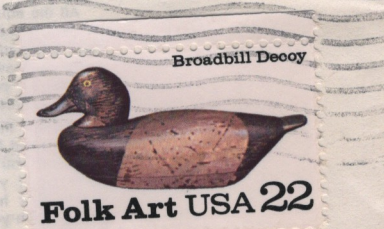
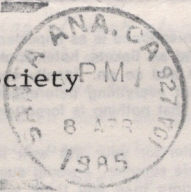
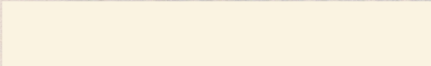
I wish you a good journey and every success! P.S. Our Editor would be delighted to see any particularly outstanding colour slides you may make, and the members of your Branch too may be glad to see them projected at one of the meetings.

It's time to think about buying some film and putting the old cam back to work. There's bloom everywhere, in greenhouses, at the Huntington, in the desert, even in our backyards. Then there are all those shows to come, all those gorgeous specimens. As you shoot, you may want to keep track of each shot, each plant. Rick Schiell of the Bromeliad Society has devised this form for record keeping. It has, of course, been much reduced for reproduction in this N.L.

**PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD**

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South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society  
 Newsletter



FIRST CLASS

Norma Holley

