

# SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

## newsletter

IT'S TIME FOR OUR BIG SHOW!

Friday, June 6 - SETUP!

12:00 P.M. - Arrange tables etc.  
Last minute check of  
your mound in the cactus  
garden.

3 - 9 P.M. - Enter plants.  
Bring sales  
plants.

6:30 or 7P.M. -  
Special members  
sale -- 10%  
off!

Sat. & Sun.

June 7 and 8 -

SHOWTIME!!!!

SHOW: Sat. - 12 - 4:30

Sun. - 9 - 4:30

SALE: Sat. & Sun. -

9 - 4:30

COME BE A PART OF IT!

South Coast  
Botanic Gardens,  
26300 Crenshaw  
Blvd., Palos  
Verdes Peninsula

JUNE 1986

NEWSLETTER

SHOW - CALL FOR ENTRIES



SCCSS 1986 Officers

President - Eleanor Barker [redacted]  
First V.P. - Sean Fleming [redacted]  
Second V.P. - Jim Hanna [redacted]  
Secretary - Dorothy McArthur [redacted]  
Treasurer, Virginia Russell [redacted]  
Show Committee -  
Norma Holley [redacted]  
Bob Causey [redacted]  
Carol Kennedy [redacted]  
Plant Sales -  
Ed Hancock [redacted]  
Jim Hanna [redacted]

Membership - Norma Holley  
Affiliate Rep. - Eleanor Barker  
Programs - Jim Hanna  
Publicity - Sean Fleming  
Ways & Means - Mary Belle Wallenhorst  
Sunshine - Rosalind Hancock  
Librarian - Bob Causey  
Garden - the Hancocks & Doug Rawcliffe  
Refreshments - Verna McCarty

\* \* \* \* \*

CREDITS

The cover drawing is from an earlier show schedule and is the work of "EB" which has to be our prez, Eleanor Barker! Other show schedule drawings also appear in this N.L.; and I want to thank Carol Kennedy for loaning me her copies so I could reproduce them.

The cartoons are devised from drawings by Anne Cleveland and Jean Anderson and arrived as photocopies from a friend. I understand that these delightful drawings are from an old college booklet. The captions of course were changed to go with our show issue Newsletter.

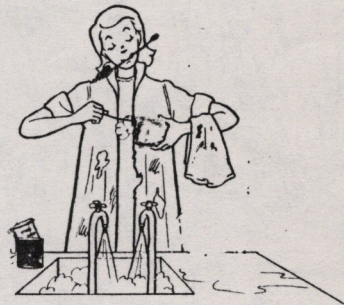
Your editor by the way regrets that this newsletter will be late when I meant it to be early! Of all the newsletters to be late, this should not be it. Your editor is: Carol Wujcik, [redacted]

\* \* \* \* \*

The judges say that cleanliness is next to godliness, so scrub that old pot until it looks like new.



SHOW PREP!



"It was centered when I repotted it, but now..."

## SHOW COMMITTEE

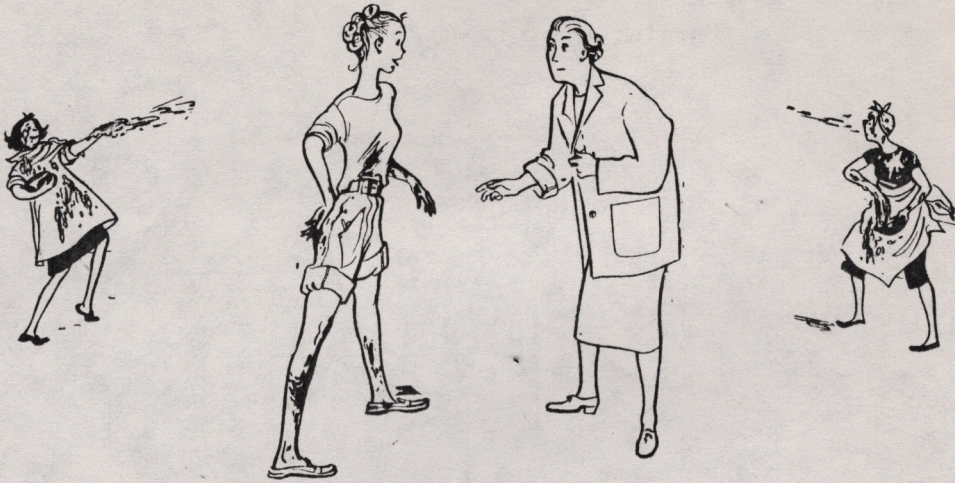
It's important for a Show Committee and interested Club members to set goals.

"What we want is a show that'll convert the WHOLE PENINSULA into CACTUS FIENDS! Let's go for it!"



## THE 1986 SCCSS SHOW & SALE

- SETUP:** Setup begins at noon on Friday the 6th. Tables have to be placed and covered, and classes arranged. **HELP!**
- ENTRY:** Enter your show plants after 3 P.M. until 9 P.M. To save yourself time, prepare your registration sheets and entry forms for each plant ahead of time if you can. (Green for advanced, pink for novice). Extra forms will be available, and there will be people and library books to assist you. Everyone should have received their show schedule in the mail months ago, but if you've lost yours, there will be more available.
- PLANTS NOT ENTERED INTO COMPETITION:** There will be a Potpourri table again this year for any bragging type plant you don't wish in competition (maybe you haven't had it long enough) but will please the public. Also if you have an exhibit, let Norma know right away. And finally, the Court of Honor is the place for your trophy winners of past years (if still alive and we hope they are!) Bring your trophy too -- it's a good time to dust it off!
- JUDGES LUNCHEON:** The judges will do their thing until 12 when they will sit down to their well-deserved lunch, prepared by US. Carol Kennedy will be preparing the ham, and the rest of us should know what to bring by now. Call Norma if you have questions. Bring your goodies between 10:30 and 11:30 if possible on Saturday the 7th.
- FRIDAY SUPPER:** Please bring your own brown bag if you'll be working through the dinner hour. Coffee and tea will be provided.



"We like to really get into repotting.  
You know, sort of becoming one with  
the earth!"

CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE

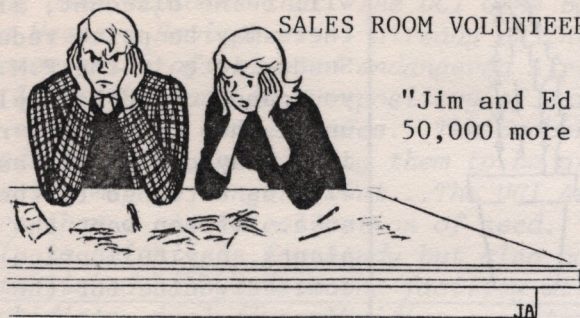
"The experts can't even agree, so how  
can we figure out what's a Borzicactus?  
Hey, a rose by any other name..."



Everyone, if you have show  
schedule - classification  
suggestions, please jot  
them down during the show  
and hand them in to Norma.  
This goes for any suggestions  
or ideas you may have for  
next year's show. Otherwise  
you may forget, and your  
suggestions may never be  
considered. Your notes only  
have to be readable, not  
works of art! THANKS!

YOUR PLANT SALES CHAIRMEN ARE PLANNING A BIG SALE!

SALES ROOM VOLUNTEERS



"Jim and Ed say there are only 50,000 more plants to label & price!"

PLANT SALES

WE NEED PEOPLE TO HELP SET UP THE SALES AREA AND TO HELP MARK PLANTS!  
(But NOT 50,000 of them!)

Jim asks that you bring any boxes, grocery bags and paper you may have for the plant sales.

Ed wants to remind you to bring those donated plants you've been growing-on. Now's the time for them to go to a new home. Please label them to the best of your ability, and mark "Club" on them. This sale is our big yearly moneymaker!

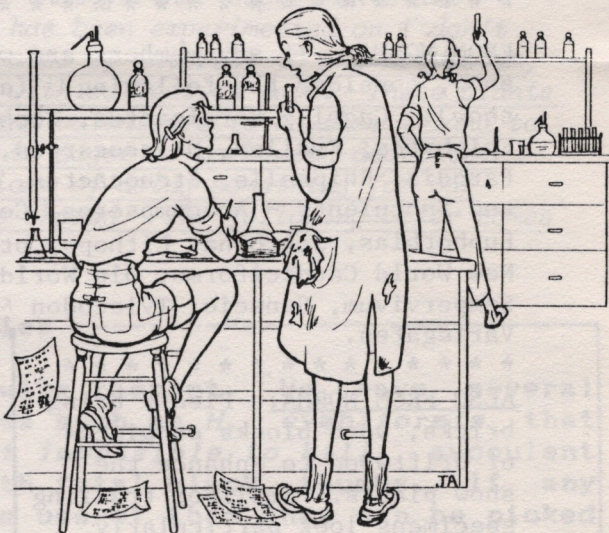
Members wishing to sell their own plants through the Club, please price them to take into consideration the 50 - 50 split. Double-tag them with plant name, your name or "alias" (not initials), and price.\* Late on Sunday, ONLY YOU can reduce the price on your plant IF YOU WISH. Nobody else has authority to change your prices.

If possible bring your sale plants & supplies etc. before the Club sale Friday night.

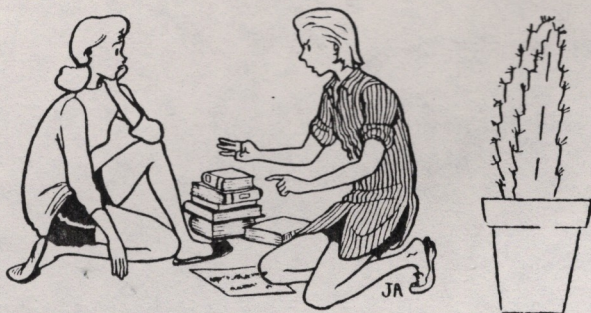
On Friday night, there will be a special sale for members -- 10% discount.

*\*on each tag!*

DESIGNER CACTUS LAB



"What we're trying to create here is a real show-stopper -- a Fero with turquoise spines on a chartreuse body with shocking pink wool. What we want is something that'll just stun the judges! Something kind of punk."



"No, no! Norma says that this year it's PINK for novice and GREEN for advanced." That's green as in Green Thumb NOT Greenhorn. O.K., got it?"

During regular sales hours (9 - 4:30 Sat & Sun) there will be no discount, altho there may be price reductions Sunday late in the P.M. BUT you cannot hold back plants until then to get any reduction. Any plants set aside will be returned to the sales area. If you want the best plants, pay full price or come Fri. nite for the 10% discount.

\*\*\*\*\*

Questions? Call Ed Hancock at \_\_\_\_\_ or Jim Hanna at \_\_\_\_\_. But call Ed first, as management at Jim's co. is still working extra. (strike)

\*\*\*\*\*

\* SHOW TIME

\*\*\*\*\*

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD NOMINATIONS:

Please print and ask visitors to print their choice. It's hard to read those botanical names!

\*\*\*\*\*

FROM NORMA: If any members are wondering what plants to enter for the show, consider the following (all had less than 5 entries for the '85 show): Cacti - Borzicactus, Cochemiea, Crests, Echinocactus, Echinopsis, Epiphytes, Frailea, Malacocarpus, Melocactus & Discocactus, Monstrose, Parodia, Rhipsalis, Stenocactus, Thelocactus, Turbinicarpus, Variegates, and Succulents - Anacampseros, Conophytum, Crests, Caudiciform & Medusa Euphorbias, Jatropha, Lithops, other Mesembs, Monadenium, Monstrose, New World Caudiciforms, Old World Caudiciforms, Pelargonium, Sarcocaulo Sempervivum, Senecio, Tylecodon & Variegates.

\*\*\*\*\*

ALSO FROM NORMA: Please bring bricks, wood blocks or pieces of driftwood to enhance the show plants. Small or trailing specimens look particularly handsome raised up this way. There will be pieces of burlap to use under your potted plants if you wish.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't bring water-soaked plants. They drip and some plants have been known to fall over. This can be embarrassing for a proud show plant.



JA

THE JUDGES' DECISION IS ALWAYS FINAL.

We've mentioned the UCI Arboretum and its conservation efforts -- a gene bank now in operation for S. African bulbs and other plants. Orchids are about to be added to the group. Their brochure on this proposed gene bank explains that "The UCI Gene Bank -- the first of its kind in the Western Hemisphere -- already is internationally known for its preservation of selected endangered African plant species. Established in 1976, the bank is a repository of carefully packaged seeds preserved at subfreezing temperatures. The process keeps the seeds alive for hundreds of years, permitting them to be grown in the future when living species may no longer exist...The UCI Arboretum Orchid Gene Bank will be more than a static collection of seed. Species will be made available not only to scientists for study but also commercial breeders and even established hobbyists. The facility will interact closely with local orchidists, including providing assistance in species identification and advice about micropropagation." Although orchids don't traditionally fall within the scope of the succulent enthusiast, many of the S. African bulbs do, and the Aloes are of primary interest. The UCI Arboretum is also specializing in Aloes, but many are huge plants and it's difficult with a limited staff and budget to prevent cross-pollination with other species. So Aloe seed and pollen are not yet a part of the gene bank prime effort, assuming the seed freezes successfully (apparently how you freeze and etc. including thawing can make a difference. I know nothing about any of this, but read somewhere that further experiments are necessary. Whether or not Aloe seed has been experimented on I don't know.) Haworthias and Gasterias are also of interest to the Arboretum, and they have a collection of these, with collection data. These plants desperately need division and work, and volunteers to do this -- and to help with the Aloes. This Arboretum is eager to work with dedicated hobbyists, and besides the satisfactions of doing something for our plants, there are some freebies to be shared. The following offer comes from the summer newsletter:

#### ----- Freebies -----

**Our *Haworthia* collection is growing rampant. We have several large pots of the commoner species such as *H. cymbiformis* that need a new home. These are almost impossible to kill, succulent pot plants designed for those with fatal black thumbs. If any Garden Club or individual can make use of them they can be picked up at the Arboretum. Please phone ahead to make sure that plants are still available before coming in. Our phone is (714) 856-5833**

AND IF YOU CAN VOLUNTEER IN ANY WAY, CALL PROF. KOPOWITZ OR CHARLIE. The Arboretum would be a beautiful place to work; and if you haven't yet visited you're in for a treat, tho the prime bloom season for the African succulents is over for this year, I think. (Too definite statements can come back to haunt one.)



ALSO, AUGUST 26 IS THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL BULB AND PLANT SALE. The phone number is (714) 856-5833, and "a name and phone number left on the Arboretum answering machine will get you a return call or letter."

Finally, UCI is offering two summer courses which may be of interest to you. Information is provided below. The phone # to inquire about these University Extension programs is (714) 856-5414.

## Horticultural Science

This series of lectures, laboratory demonstrations and greenhouse sessions will explain the theory and practice of plant culture. Participants will study the basic aspects of plant structure and function, soil science, plant pathology, plant pests and irrigation, and the applied aspects of horticulture.

### Learn...

- How to carry out standard and recently developed plant propagation techniques, including air layering, root grafting, shoot grafting, propagation by seed, "conventional" cloning of plants and basic plant breeding techniques
- The use of plant hormones in the growth of cultivated plants
- Where to look for and have access to horticultural literature
- Structural and functional aspects of plant growth that will allow students to develop their own repertoire for plant propagation and breeding

## Who Should Take This Course

Plant hobbyists and backyard botanists; students who want to extend their course work for credit in the biological sciences; persons interested in investigating careers in horticulture and plant biotechnology; persons who want to develop a background in the structure and function of green plants and basic propagation techniques in preparation for a newly established course in plant tissue culture and biotechnology.

**Instructor: Leslie Paul Nyman, Ph.D.**, Assistant Researcher, Developmental and Cell Biology, UC Irvine. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom and is an expert on vascular plant development. He has consulted with orchid nurseries and botanical gardens in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific.

Tuesday, 7-10 p.m., 6 meetings, June 17 - July 22; Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., 1 meeting, July 29, 1986 (laboratory times and location will be announced); Room 108, Physical Sciences, UCI Campus. Biological Sciences X 420 (2) EDP:S150 - Fee: \$102.

## Basic Techniques of Plant Tissue Culture

This course will extend skills and knowledge developed in basic horticultural courses. It introduces the rudiments necessary to culture plant cells, tissues and organs. Topics include sterile technique, media preparation, shoot tip (meristem) culture, and in vitro cloning and seed production. During lab sessions, participants will learn to prepare and to culture meristems, seeds and shoot tissue. They will develop tissue transfer skills and monitor cultures throughout the duration of the course. The course will allow participants to develop tissue culture systems for plant materials appropriate or important to their interests and needs. The course includes laboratory materials and services.

## Who Should Take This Course

Horticulturists, hobbyists and persons interested or engaged in plant genetic engineering.

**Instructor: Leslie Paul Nyman, Ph.D.**, Assistant Researcher, Developmental and Cell Biology, UC Irvine. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom and is an expert on vascular plant development. He has consulted with nurseries and botanical gardens in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific.

Tuesday, 7-10 p.m., 5 meetings, August 5 - September 1 (Sept. 2 is holiday); Room 105, Physical Science. Biological Sciences X 420.2 (1.5) EDP:S148 - Fee: \$170.

## Enroll Today

**By mail** - The easiest way to enroll is to use the application form and return by mail. Be sure to enclose your check, Visa or MasterCard authorization and to list your zip code. Use a separate sheet for other enrollments. Give all information requested.

**Mail to: University of California, P.O. Box AZ, Irvine, CA 92715**

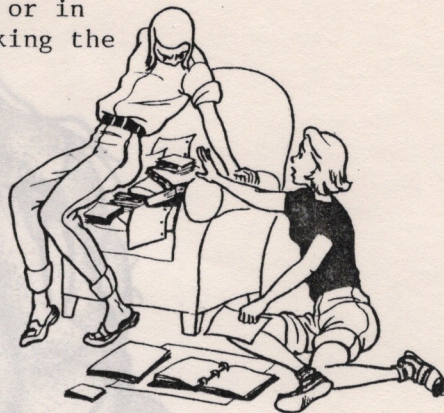
**In person** - at the University Extension Registration Office, 1000 of Verano Way and North Circle View Drive, UCI Campus.

**By Phone** - If you have Visa or MasterCard you may register by calling (714) 856-5414. Give information requested on the application including your Visa or MasterCard account number and expiration date.



THE ORGANIZED PERSON COMPLETES  
HIS SHOW ENTRY FORMS AHEAD OF TIME.

Bob says that all those books gathering dust in your personal library or in the club's, are great for checking the spelling of botanical names.



"Hey, don't sit on THE CACTACEAE!"

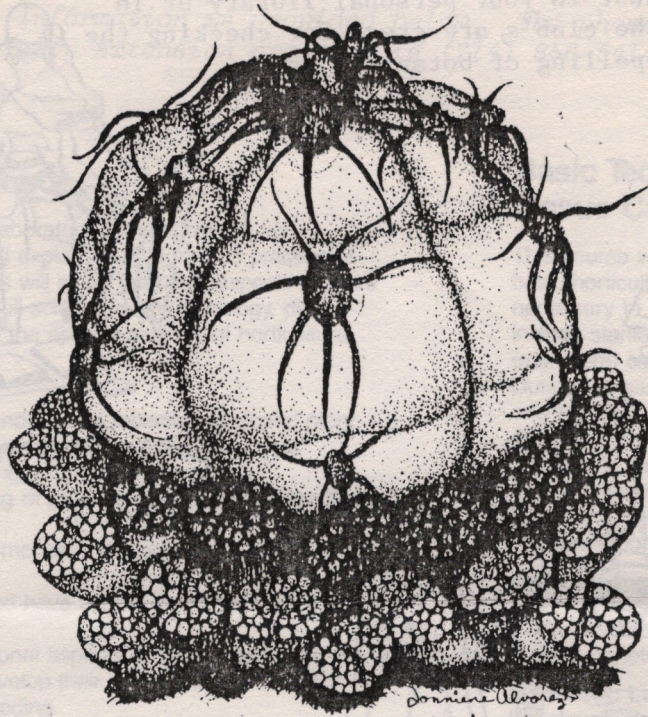


"Where'd all my Euphorbias go?!"



Always keep legible records on your plants...

The following drawing of a Gymmo and a mesemb is by Ms. Alvarez and is from our 1976 show schedule. Plant of the month notes on *Gymnocalycium* are from the Henry Shaw Society's Feb. '86 CACTUS DIGEST.



PLANT OF THE MONTH - *Gymnocalycium*

*Gymnocalycium* is a very interesting genus. It is also very popular because of the number of species in the genus. There are well over 70 described species and new ones are being found on a regular basis. These plants come from many different areas of South America. They are mostly found at high altitudes on plateaus or in the mountains. Because there are so many species of this genus, it lends itself very well to a specialized collection. The difference in size, color and spination is so varied, that on initial inspection one might have a hard time believing that they all belong to the same genus. Gymnos, as they are often called, make very good plants to have in a collection with limited space. They are spherical and sometimes form clumps but are generally small and only occasionally will you need more than a 4 or 5 inch pot to keep them in.

Cultivation of these plants is fairly easy. Many of them come from areas that are fairly humid. Some develop a turnip-like root and therefore must be watered carefully. Others will tolerate quite a bit of water during the growing season. During the winter, these plants will tolerate fairly cold temperatures. If kept quite dry, many will be okay at temperatures slightly below freezing. A safer bet would be not to let the temperature below 40°F for them.

The flowers of these plants are usually an off-white color, but some varieties are known to have yellow, red or lilac flowers. Because many of the Gymnos are solitary, the only method of propagation is by seed. Some are clumping, though, and these are easily propagated by removing a piece of the clump and rooting it on its own.



"What I don't like about this show issue is the balance -- three sensitive memories of "My First Cactus Show" and only one "How to Wow the Judges!"

TIP FROM MARYBELLE: To make sure your show entries always face "front" on the show table, even if the show comm. has to move them, use masking tape to attach your entry form to the underside of the pot facing front. (Most plants have a "best" side.)

+++++

The Euphorbia drawing on our Show Flyer is by Zanera Myers!

+++++

Trophies will again be medallions, but they will be mounted on stands this year; they will be removable so you can wear them like Olympians!

+++++

Please refer to your show schedule for show rules, and to last month's newsletter for more show info.

+++++

OUR GARDEN AT SOUTH COAST

Time is short. (isn't it always), but if you can, please check out your cactus bed and set things to rights (pull weeds etc.). If you aren't assigned a mound, then Bed #8 NEEDS YOU! This is the mound with the big barrels & tall cereus.

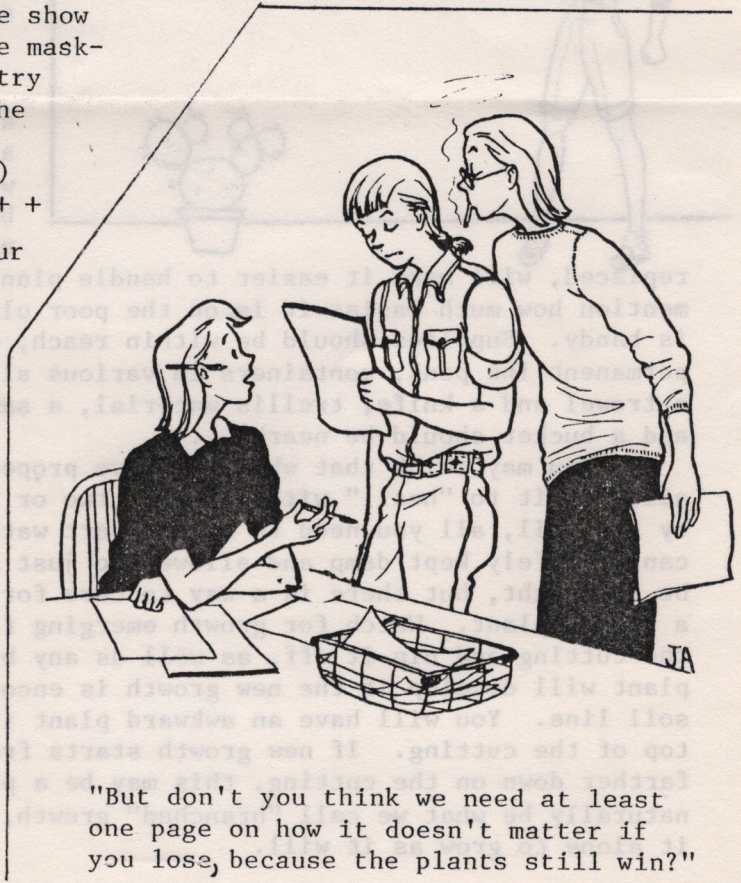
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Also, tell Ed what watering schedule you'd like your bed to be on. They can be set individually.

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SHOW TIME

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"But don't you think we need at least one page on how it doesn't matter if you lose, because the plants still win?"

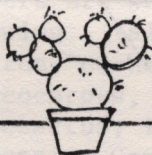
"Now this is really bonsai! I mean REALLY bonsai!"



When carting plants to the show, remember to protect your plants, your car or vehicle, and yourself.

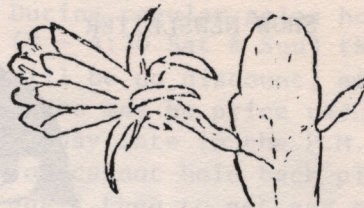


"How do I get these glochids out?"



replaced, will make it easier to handle plants without breakage, not to mention how much easier it is on the poor old back. A stool to sit on is handy. Supplies should be within reach, potting mix, ties, labels, permanent ink pens, containers in various sizes, clippers or scissors, a trowel and a knife, trellis material, a saw and nails. A garden hose and a bucket should be nearby...

"You may think that when you have properly planted a cutting after allowing it to "heal," with at least two or three of the areoles covered by the soil, all you need to do is start watering it gradually until it can be safely kept damp and allowed to just set there and grow. This may be all right, but there is a way to care for a cutting that will give you a better plant. Watch for growth emerging from areoles near the end of the cutting and nip it off, as well as any buds that may appear. A better plant will develop if the new growth is encouraged to come from below the soil line. You will have an awkward plant if the growth grows from the top of the cutting. If new growth starts from nearly every areole, farther down on the cutting, this may be a plant whose habit is to naturally be what we call "branched" growth, and in that case you may let it alone to grow as it will.



#### EPI TALK

The following is from the Sept.-Oct. BULLETIN of the Epiphyllum Soc. of America and more specifically from an article called "Epiculture" by Velma Featherstone. It will be continued in our next issue. Thanks to Dick Kohlschreiber for loaning his copy for reproduction. Drawing above is by Eleanor.

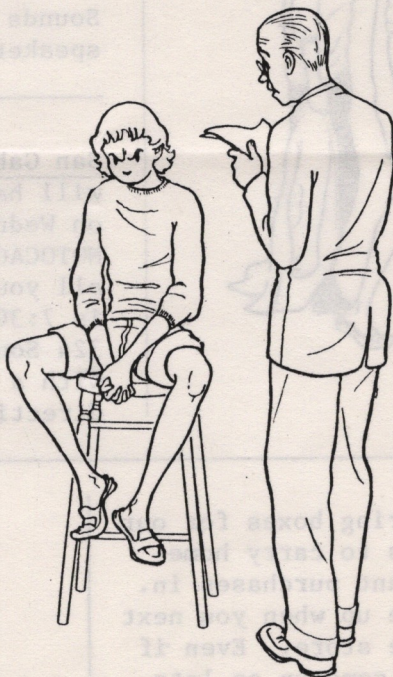
\* \* \* \* \*

"A good work area is almost a necessity; at any rate, it is a great convenience. A long work bench where plants can be laid down flat when they need repotting or have trellises

"Picture in your mind the kind of cutting you have. A long branch may have been cut into several sections, the part cut from near the soil line will taper to a point and the top will have been cut straight across. The next cutting from this branch will have been cut in a "V" at the bottom, straight across at the top. The end section will have the "v" at the bottom, and the top will probably be the rounded end of the branch. As cuttings, they are equally good. The last type of cutting may react differently than the first two; it may continue to grow longer, but again this is not what is desirable. You want the cutting to send out new growth from one or more of the areoles covered by the soil. If the cutting is clipped off at the rounded end, it will force this new growth. Don't expect this little 6 or 8 inch cutting to perform miracles; all it should do is start a new plant for you, which is a miracle in itself.

"We have often been asked when older, established plants should be pruned. "Pruned" is a word I don't use in connection with Epiphyllums. One thinks of pruning roses, or shrubs, trees or house plants in the context of cutting them back. Since we tend to think of pruning in these terms, I avoid using the word when referring to Epiphyllums, even though that may actually be what we are doing; but we do it differently.

"One of our members wrote that one of his Epiphyllums was taking up too much room with its long branches, so he pruned it back neatly with all the branches cut to a length of no more than 12 inches. But he had unknowingly reduced his plant to nothing more than a bunch of rooted cuttings. Without doubt, they would in short order send out a lot of side growth, making an awkward, even more unmanageable plant. Worse still, he had probably destroyed the part of the plant that would have bloomed in profusion in the spring."



"But Susan, just which of the judges' decisions do you find yourself unable to accept?"

FIRST MID-STATES PICNIC AND MINI-  
CONFERENCE

Friday June 20 - Sunday June 22, 1986

Omaha, Nebraska

Hosted by the Omaha C & S Society.

5 speakers on 6 subjects, including Seymour  
Linden, Peg Spaete, Frank Bowman,  
Vince Lospresti, & Malcolm Burleigh.

Also in attendance: Fred Hutflesz, Lloyd  
(possibly) Brinson, Bill Woodard, &  
Mary Jo Gussett.

So if you're going to be in the Midwest, ask  
Dorothy or Eleanor to see info., or contact  
Skip & Retha Adkins, 3865 California St.,  
Omaha, NE 68131.

Sounds like a great weekend with the picnic,  
speakers, visits, mini-show etc etc etc!

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San Gabriel Valley C & S Soc. Study Group  
will have its last meeting until next fall  
on Wednesday, June 18th. The topic will be  
NOTOCACTUS presented by Joe Clements. Bring  
all your representatives of the genus. Time  
is 7:30 P.M., and place is the Adult Center,  
324 South Mission Dr., San Gabriel. Check  
with a member of the club if you need  
directions.

ANOTHER SHOW TO OUR CREDIT!

or

END-OF-SHOW WIPE-OUT TIME...



Please bring boxes for our  
customers to carry home  
their plant purchases in.  
Pick some up when you next  
go to the store. Even if  
you pick some up as late  
as Sat., you can bring them  
in for the Sun. morning  
sales. THANK YOU.



LOOKING BACK

"By next year maybe  
I'll have this scrap-  
book filled with  
pictures and ribbons  
and..."

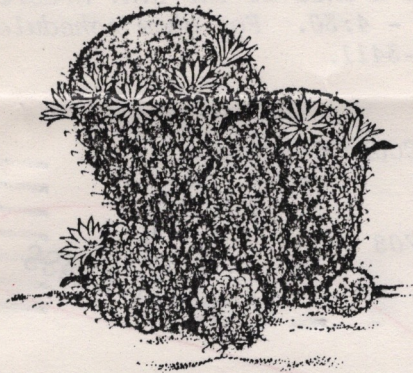
I want to reassure everyone that the following is NOT part of an ongoing series.

MUSICAL CACTI: MAMMILLARIA

by Carol

If cacti were musical compositions, then Mams to me would be composed at least in part by Bach. They're rich, elegant, complex variations on a theme, orderly -- with a cool, logical outside and an inner force which never falls into disorder. The Mams also partake of the buoyancy of Hayden; and although they have some of the purity and lyricism of Mozart, they don't quite display his sweep nor do they reach his joyous highs. They're classical creatures, without the drama of the romantic Beethoven nor the dissonance of the moderns...Their beauty is precise, delicate, complicated, airy, faceted. They're Bach and Hayden, with a dash of Mozart.

\* \* \* \* \*



*Mammillaria wildii*

P.S. As newsletter editor, it's interesting to me that my files have so few Mam drawings despite the popularity of the plants. Perhaps it's because although they're geometrical, many are "busy" and others are "fuzzy." On the other hand, I probably have more Mesemb drawings than I'll ever use, maybe because many of these are so very economically sculptural. Yet when it comes to actually growing live plants, the Mams are #1 both in popularity and adaptability. (The above drawing is by Stefan Bernath for the CACTUS COLORING BOOK, Dover Pictorial Archive Series. Bernath is one artist who attempted to draw the some of the spinies and the fuzzies).

CALENDAR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

June 6, Friday, OUR SHOW & SALE SETUP starting at noon.  
 Enter plants for show from 3 - 9 PM.  
 Special members sale, 10% off, 7 PM.

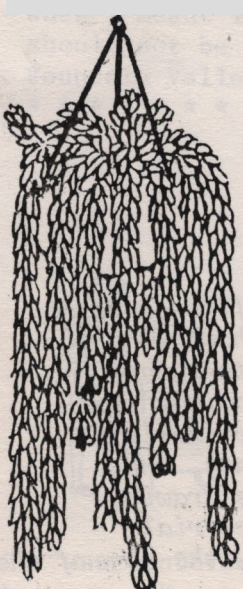
June 7, Saturday, OUR SALE - 9 - 4:30 PM  
 BRING FOOD FOR JUDGES LUNCH: from 10:30 - 11:30.  
 OUR SHOW - 12 - 4:30 PM

June 8, Sunday, OUR SHOW & SALE - 9 - 4:30.

June 14 & 15, Sat. & Sun. CACTO DEL ADOBE, Long Beach Cactus Club Show & Sale at the Dominguez Adobe, 18127 S. Alameda St., in the Dominguez Hills (just south of the Artesia Fwy, the 91).  
 Hours Sat: sale 12 - 5 PM and show 2 - 5 PM.  
 Hours Sun: show & sale 10-5 PM. Free admission. Parking at top of hill. Outdoor cactus garden. Tours of the historic Adobe on Sun. from 1 - 4 PM. Competition open to all amateur exhibitors. For show schedule & info. call (213) 421-8175.

July 4, 5, & 6, CSSA SHOW & SALE at the L.A. Arboretum in Arcadia.  
 HOURS: 9 - 4:30. For show schedule or info., call (213) 667-3411.

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
 Newsletter



FIRST CLASS



Norma Holley



SHOW TIME IS HERE! ARE YOU READY?!