

MAMMILLARIA THORNERI

Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

Vol. X, No. 4

April 1975

PROGRAM:

A Panel of Experts on the CSSA Convention - Prepare Your Questions.

April 12th., 1:30 PM, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

CACTUS OF THE MONTH: Notocactus

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: Echeveria

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MEMBERSHIP : The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti, other succulents and exotic plants.

Dues: \$ 5.00 annually, due in December of each year.

Single copy of E y F: \$ 0.50.

Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month, 1:30 PM. Board meets after general meeting.

Deadline for May issue publication is April 15, 1975.

CEREUS-LY SPEAKING:

Thank you again, Jean and Leta Hapeman, Marcia Hamecher, Herb Hewitt, Joan Heer, Ione Hubner, Nellie Kennett, Lena Rice, Ona Russell and Vernice Siegert for providing us with such an appetizing coffee break.

We greatly appreciate Thomas and Marcia Hamecher's acceptance of the chairmanship for the DelMar Fair. This entails a lot of headaches and hard physical labor as those of you who have graciously donated your services in the past to this project very well know.

Are you wondering who donated the book "Desert, the American Southwest" to our library? Our very own librarian, Edith Werner, admitted under pressure, that she was the donor. Edith, we thank you for your gift.

In case you did not know: Julianne Rice volunteered her services in the name of our society to conduct classes on desert plants to be held on occasional Saturday mornings from 10 am to 12 noon in Room 104, Casa del Prado under the auspices of the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation. Thank you, Julianne. And if that isn't enough: she has taken on the job, started by Bette Baker, of writing up individual gardens of members to be exhibited for conventioners from out-of-town only. These articles will not appear in E. y F. but rather will be handed out to the visitors as souvenirs - as suggested by Walter Scott.

There will be no May meeting of the society because we should all be busy preparing for the convention in order to enjoy it. However, Espinas y Flores will be published, but later than usual, and will appear in the form of a souvenir-issue.

Please note that the day of Board Meetings has been changed to that of the regular monthly membership meeting. On a trial basis, the Board will meet immediately after the conclusion of the general meeting.

Virginia Innis, who gave that marvelous program on flower arrangements in February, in a letter to V.P. Nibby Klinefelter, expressed appreciation to the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society. Mrs. Innis feels that giving the program provided her with great pleasure and helped her gain new knowledge in our special field. Speaking for our members, Mrs. Innis, we feel the same about your skillful demonstrations.

Another Cerebral Palsy contribution from the Wells: A Thank You.

FEB. 21 1975

DEAR MRS. WELLS AND LADIES,

WE OF THE ADULTS PROGRAM AT UCP WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR WARMEST AND DEEPEST THANKS FOR YOUR GREAT AND GENEROUS EFFORTS IN RAISING 65 DOLLARS FOR OUR CACTUS CLUB AT UCP. WE ARE VERY SURE THAT WE WILL USE IT IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH

SINCERELY YOURS,
SUE ANN HOWERTC
SECRETARY FOR THE
ADULT S PROGRAM
AT UCP

Cactus-of-the-Month - Notocactus

Notes on species-groups of Notocactus

George E. Radwin

Considering the popularity and general availability of species of Notocactus, I was persuaded to repeat this genus, treated last year, at a time when most are blooming. This has forced me to produce an encore, rather than repeating last year's effort.

In a genus-group as large and diverse as Notocactus it is reasonable to expect the existence of sub-groupings and, indeed, this is what we find. Some taxonomists call these sub-groupings "species-groups", indicating that all species in such a group are more closely related to each other than to other species of the genus, if not actually having been evolved from a common ancestry in the recent past.

Species-group (or sub-generic) names in Notocactus, and their more salient characteristics are:

	NOTOCACTUS	ERIOCACTUS	BRASILICACTUS	WIGGINSIA (MALACOCARPUS)
Representative Species	<u>apricus</u> <u>arachnitis</u> <u>concinus</u> <u>crassigibbus</u> <u>herteri</u> <u>ubelmannianus</u>	<u>horstii</u> <u>linkii</u> <u>mammulosus</u> <u>ottonis</u> <u>rutilans</u>	<u>claviceps</u> <u>graessneri</u> <u>leninghausi</u> <u>magnificus</u> <u>schumannianus</u>	<u>haselbergi</u> <u>sellowii</u> <u>leprosorum</u>
habit	normally solitary (some caespitose)	some caespitose (<u>magnificus</u> , <u>leninghausi</u>), others solitary	solitary	solitary, rarely caespitose
ribbing	ribs generally rounded with trans- verse clefts or rounded knobs	ribs sharp to moderately round knobless	ribs round, knobless	ribs sharp, with sharp, angular knobs

	NOTOCACTUS	ERIOCACTUS	BRASILICACTUS	WIGGINSIA (MALACOCARPUS)
apex	sunken	flattened, in some species obliquely canted	more or less rounded	flat
spination	stout and stiff, in some cases following the rounded body contours	long, slender and rather soft	very slender and stiff	generally more or less short, stout and stiff
wool	wooly areoles only	wooly areoles only	areoles not heavily wooly	copious apical mound of wool
flowers	large, yellow, on long tubes, produced from apical areoles	large and broad white or yellow, with short tubes, produced from apical areoles	small, orange or yellow, over- lapping petals, borne on apical areoles	large, yellow, short-tubed, tubes pro- truding from apical wool
fruits	thick-walled, hard, and more or less dry; weekly adherent	generally as in <u>Notocactus</u>	generally as in <u>Notocactus</u>	thin-walled, soft, and fleshy; strongly adherent

CEREUS-LY SPEAKING: cont'd.

We are sorry to hear that Doc Vaughan is in Mercy Hospital after undergoing gallbladder surgery. At a time like this, get-well wishes are always welcome. It has been suggested that all mail be addressed to his home - 1041 Leroy St., San Diego, Ca., 92106. Speedy recovery, Doc.

The following gardens are open for touring conventioners only: Bibbey, Buckner, Evans, Gable, Jean Hapeman, Kennett, Klinefelter, Latimer, Mooney, Pfeiffer, Phelps, Scott, Nelson and Bob Taylor. This list is subject to change. Please direct any questions to Perlso Lewis 583-9085.

Succulent of the Month

ECHEVERIA - De Condolle

Madelyn Lee

In 1788, when Martin Sesse set out for Mexico from Spain, he had no idea that the fifteen years spent with Jose Mocino and Atanasio Echeverria compiling the 'Flora Mexicana' would not be acknowledged in his lifetime.

They were to have had a royal grant from the King of Spain, but the king died, and his successor did not honor the grant. For fifteen years they struggled under the most difficult conditions; exploring, collecting material and making drawings. In 1803 they returned to Spain but the acclaim by the botanical world they had expected was not received. After Sesse died in 1809, Mocino found work at the Natural History Museum in Madrid. He had all the expedition material with him at this time. He also met and became friends with Augustin De Condolle, a wealthy, Swiss citizen who was a professor of botany at Montpellier in France.

In 1816, when Napoleon was marching over Europe and beginning to overrun Spain, Mocino loaded all the Flora Mexicana material on an oxcart and fled in fear to De Condolle in Montpellier. Together they fled to Geneva and safety.

By 1820 Mocino decided it was safe to return to Spain and fortunately, he left all the herbarium specimens, drawings and notes with De Condolle. When Mocino requested the return of the material to Spain, De Condolle feared for the preservation of the valuable botanical material. He hired 120 draftsmen to make precise tracings of all 2400 drawings by Atanasio Echeverria and copy all the notes. It was a good thing he did. Mocino, shortly thereafter, disappeared and all the original herbarium specimens, drawings and notes of Flora Mexicana have never been found.

In 1827 De Condolle named the genus ECHEVERIA after the botanical illustration Atanasio Echeverria and named E. COCCINEA as the type species.

Echeverias are from Mexico, Central and South America and one species is from Texas. They are high-mountain (over 5000 feet) plants and grow on vertical cliffs and rocks in cool, moist areas around bushes and pine trees. They are often found growing with Sedums and Pachy phytums.

Under cultivation they prefer loose, rich soil and shallow pots. They appreciate protection from our hot afternoon sun and temperatures above 40° in winter.

With the waxy-leaved species, some care should be taken when watering them. The leaves become marked and rot may begin in the center of the rosette if they are water overhead. It is not necessary to withhold all water in the winter months. Water less, but the plant should not become limp or dry.

Mealy bug and aphids are the worst pests and whenever possible a systemic insecticide should be used. Most insecticides used on the plant will mark the leaves, so apply it to the soil in the pot and not overhead.

You have cooperated wonderfully in bringing your plants in and sharing them with us all. March is the best month for 'color' in Echeverias, so bring in a plant or two and we will enjoy them together.

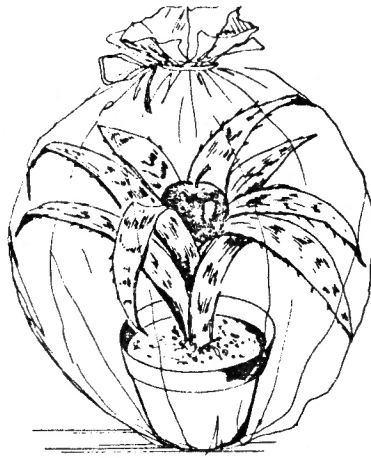
THE LIBRARIAN REPORTS:

By Edith Werner

"Boojum and its Home", by Dr. Robert R. Humphrey. This is a new book published in 1974 by the University of Arizona Press. Dr. Humphrey is a professor at the University of Arizona who was asked by Scripps Institute to speak at a three day workshop held in La Jolla last November. The topic of his talk was "Tourism's Impact on Natural Areas in Baja California". This book is the result of Dr. Humphrey's intensive field observation and in-depth study of the weird Boojum or ciro (*Idria Colomnaris*) in its native environment. The boojum is restricted to a small portion of Central Baja California and Sonora, Mexico. The soil, rainfall, wind and exposure are discussed in a technical but interesting manner. The book includes about one hundred black and white illustrations of boojum trees. Associated plants such as agaves, ocotillo, yucca and elephant tree are described in the back of the book. The author still could not find the answer to the question as to why the boojum tree, in its natural habitat restricted to such a very limited area, will grow very well when transplanted to an entirely different environment.

"Desert, the American Southwest" by Ruth Kirk is a gift to the library. The author has spent years in the desert, roaming, observing and studying the wealth of plant and animal life. The many photographs taken by the author are equal to those of a professional. If you read this book you will feel more compassion and appreciation for all life in the desert.

GARDEN HINTS:



When a mature Aechmea, or other bromeliad, such as Neoregelia, fails to flower, budding can be hastened by this procedure: Place a ripe apple in the center of the leaf rosette and seal inside a plastic bag. After 48 hours, remove the plastic and apple. Flowering should occur within a few weeks. Ethylene gas given off by a ripe apple speeds the maturing process, thus causing blooms to appear.



CSSA CONVENTION NOTES:

Thanks to the careful notes taken by our recording secretary, Doris Rake, I am able to submit a condensed report on the latest CSSA Planning Committee meeting.

You must be registered to attend any convention functions (Fee \$10) but to one event only you may bring one unregistered guest. Any questions regarding registration should be directed to Pat Mooney, 427-6796.

Palomar, Imperial Valley and San Diego Clubs will host the Monday night banquet with a Mexican Theme. Sacramento will host the Wednesday banquet. Friday will remain Hawaiian night. Hypnotist Michael Dean's appearance was cancelled.

Doorprizes, centerpieces and favors were discussed. El Centro will donate 300 five-inch Mexican clay pots; Palomar small Duleyas. San Diego's Bill Nelson has grown approximately 200 Senecio rolyanis to be used as favors; Julianne Rice offered to make 30 donkey carts for table center pieces. Joe Bibbey is in charge of the plant sales table and is ready to accept potted donations from our members. Please contact him for further information 423-5133.

Warren Buckner, CSSA Committee chairman, stressed the point that many volunteers are needed to make this convention a roaring success. If you can spare any time: guides, help with plant sales, host and hostesses are urgently needed. Please call Warren 469-1391 to offer your talents. He also suggests that you should register before the out-of-towners arrive. This would help expedite matters.

Palomar has taken on the job to organize some very promising North County nursery tours.

The following nurseries will be selling plants at the Bahia during convention week: Grigsby, Sinner (Mon), Living Desert, The Plant Man, Kenderson's Jamul Nursery (Wed), Taylor's Cactus Garden, Nature's Curiosity Shop (Fri).

Wagonmistress Perlso Lewis is in charge of arranging the pre-convention Sunday garden visits for out-of-town guests. She needs volunteers to provide cars and act as drivers. Please contact her evening at 583-9085.

IN YOUR SPARE TIME SOLVE THIS:

Three esteemed members of our society were on a trip collecting specimen plants in Sonora, Mexico, when one of them spied a magnificent cluster of *Ferrocactus corvillei*. He immediately proceeded to separate the clump and claim half of it plus one half of a plant of the remainder of the clump as his own. When the second member of the expedition arrived on the scene, he felt it was his right to take one half of the remaining clump plus another half of one of the left-over plants. The third, and Johnnie-come-lately, team member had to do with what was left for him: he took one half of the remaining clump plus one half of a plant, and then the clump was gone.

Question: None of the plants were injured. How many plants made up the original clump?

This riddle was submitted by club member Ethel Standish and adapted for publication in E.y F. by the editor.

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Officers

PRESIDENT - Martin L. MOONEY, 97 K Street, Chula Vista, CA 92011 427-6796
1ST V. P. - Nibby KLINEFELTER, 2201 Fairfield Street, San Diego, CA 92110 276-6517
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PAST PRES - Loyal J. BIBBEY, 490 Citrus Ave., Imperial Beach, CA 92032 423-5133

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2-year term: H. Warren BUCKNER and August PFEIFFER
3-year term: Mary H. BIRCHELL and Perlso LEWIS

1975 CSSA CONVENTION COORDINATORS

H. Warren Buckner, Dr. Philip G. Corliss and Walter R. Scott

COMMITTEES FOR 1975

ACTIVITIES -- Perlso LEWIS
EDUCATION -- Madelyn LEE, Succulents, Dr. George E. RADWIN, Cactus
EXHIBITS -- Thomas and Marcia Hamecher
LIBRARY -- Edith WERNER, Pat MOONEY, Helen HEGYI and Mike JOHNSON
MEMBERSHIP -- Madelyn LEE
PLANTS & SUPPLIES -- Reed PIERCE
PROGRAMS -- Nibby KLINEFELTER
PUBLICATION -- Augie PFEIFFER, 5163 E. Bedford Dr. S. D. CA 92116 280-4444
RECEPTION -- Lucile BECKFIELD and Edith BILLMYER
REGALEMENT -- Jean and Leta HAPEMAN
Rep. to S. D. Botanical Garden Foundation -- Mr. & Mrs. Robert ANDERS

CSSA CONVENTION - TITLE CORRECTIONS TO THE PROGRAM

Marlene Rainman - "The Fly Bordello".
(Mon. May 12)
Dr. Philip Downs - "Some Interesting, Indigenous Succulents of South
(Mon. May 12) West Africa and Angola".
Frank Horwood - "Succulent Safari to Somalia".
(Thur. May 15)

The above changes have just reached the editor. As planned, the May Souvenir Issue of E. y F. will carry brief biographical sketches of the guest speakers to be published before the convention. Conventioneers will be supplied with updated program information.

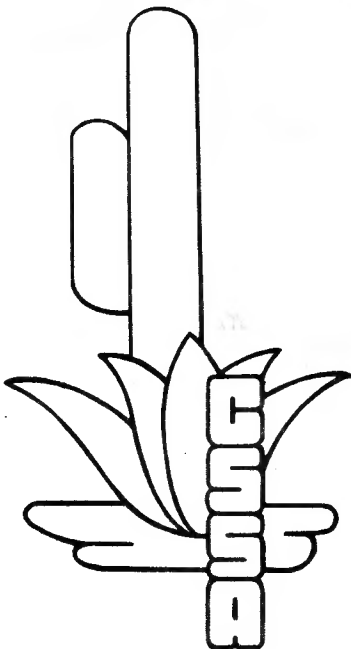


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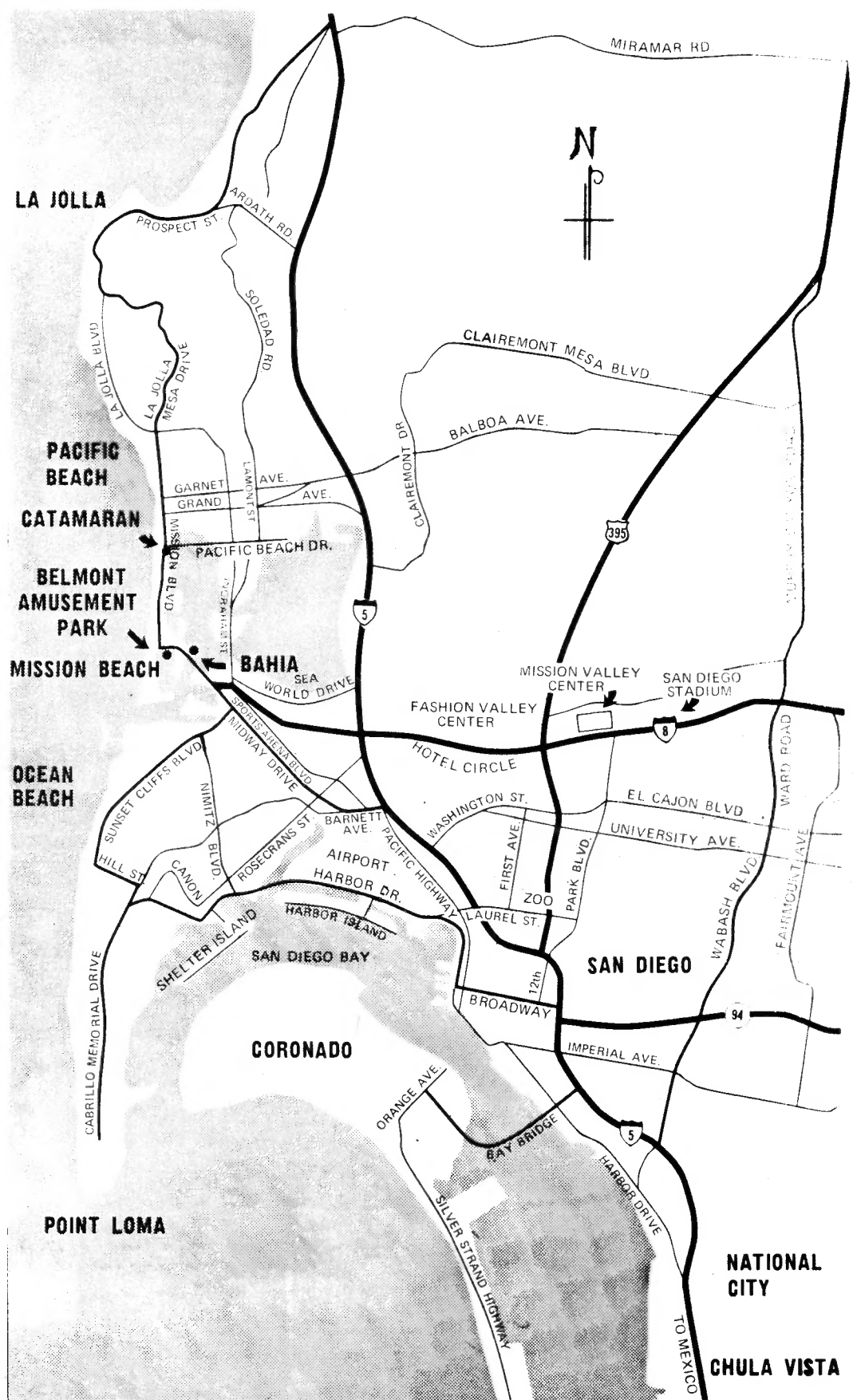
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C S S A
BIENNIAL CONVENTION
HEADQUARTERS

MAY 12-16, 1975



The Cactus and Succulent
Society of America



San Diego
Cactus & Succulent Society

Augie Pfeiffer
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Return Requested