

Espinas y Flores

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

Vol. XII, No. 12.

December, 1977

DECEMBER MEETING DATE:

Saturday, December 10th., 1977.

PROGRAM:

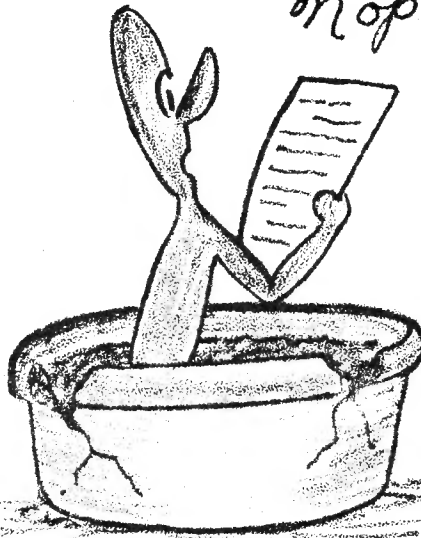
Annual Meeting & Christmas Party

Dear Santa:

Please bring me a new pot and a name tag for Christmas. My old pot is cracked and besides it's too big.

Please don't let your reindeer step on me or nibble on me!

onopalea Jr.



WRS

NOTE TO SANTA



IN THIS ISSUE:

A Collection of Special Articles written especially for this issue by our many friends and fellow members to bring to us all the Spirit of the Christmas Season.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Warren Buckner

December 10 is the annual meeting and Christmas Party of our society. We will have annual reports, elections, fun, bylaw revisions, fellowship, food, bragging plants, frolicking, and gift plants.

ANNUAL REPORTS:

Each committee chairman will give a verbal report on the past year, plans for the coming year and solicit comments and suggestions for improvement from the audience. We hope that you, the membership, will be completely candid with us during these reports. If we are doing anything that is objectionable to you please let us know (constructive criticism is solicited) and on the other hand if you approve the committee chairman would appreciate hearing from you. These reports will be summarized in "THIS PAST YEAR" to appear in the January issue of "ESPINAS y FLORES".

BOARD ELECTION:

The nominating committee has submitted

Perlso Lewis

John Pasek

as candidates for election to the Board of Directors for three years. Under the proposed revision of the bylaws the Directors will be elected for two year terms in odd numbered years. Therefor, the length of term for the newly elected directors is unclear; we need a parliamentarian or lawyer or something.

BYLAW REVISION:

The bylaw revisions were presented to the membership at the November meeting with copies available for home perusal. They have been re-organized, reworded and revised to reflect the present policies and practices of our society. The proposed bylaws will be presented in detail at the December meeting and adopted by sections.

A summary of significant revisions follows:

(Article and section references are to the proposed bylaws)

ARTICLE II --OBJECT

Statement on conservation added.

ARTICLE III--MEMBERS

Section I--Regular Members

- c. Annual dues determined by the executive board instead of a specific amount in the bylaws.
- e. Drop from membership for unpaid dues moved from March 1 to February 1.

Section 2--Honorary Members

- a. Honorary membership defined and awarded yearly by the executive board.

ARTICLE IV--OFFICERS

Section 2--Term of Office

- b. Directors changed to a term of two years and elected in odd numbered calendar years. This provides continuity by electing half of the executive board each year.

ARTICLE VI--EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 3--Board Meetings

- c. Emphasizes that Board meetings are open to all members but requires prior approval of the presiding officer of all presentations to the Board.

Section 5--Removal

- a. Changes automatic removal to may be removed for two consecutive absences from Board meetings. Removes the problem of determining "cause".
- b. Makes provision for removal of any member of the executive board including the president by two thirds vote of the members of the Board.

ARTICLE VII--STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees are named only; their duties are not assigned to specific officers or defined in the bylaws. Committee duties and responsibilities are to be outlined by the President and approved by the Board.

The bylaws committee realized that this gives broader powers to the President, but that it would produce a stronger and better organization. Listing all committee responsibilities and duties in the bylaws serves only to clutter up the bylaws and could unduly restrict the actions of the President and the Board.

ARTICLE IX--AMENDMENTS

Adds the requirement that amendments be submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, FOOD and FROLICKING:

So that all members can partake of a full share of FUN, etc. we will not have

- Plant Sales
- Plant Exchange
- Pot Sales
- Program
- Cacti of the Month
- Succulent of the Month

We will have Bragging Plants and gift plants for all members.

BRAG PLANTS:

If you have a plant to show off to the members this month the bragging is up to the proud owner. Madelyn, Rick, Tony, Ron and Lee are taking the month off; lets see your plants and your salesmanship. An added inducement will be an extra gift plant for the best bragging plant/salesman as determined by the audience.

Russel has asked to be included in the fun and frolicking (His back is much improved) so please do not bring membership dues cash or checks (\$6.00) to the meeting. Rather send them to his home as listed on the back page.

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SANTAS PLANTS:

The executive board authorized the purchase of 150 plants from the George Radwin collection as gifts at our Christmas Meeting. Raffle tickets will be distributed at Regalement Time with the drawing restricted to members only. Guests will be welcome and will receive the usual gift plant for visitors but will not participate in the Christmas Gift Plant Drawing. If you have guests for the holidays please feel free to bring them with the above restriction--we welcome all refugees from less favored climates. Mi Casa, Su Casa !

From the Buckner household

FELIZ NAVIDAD



HARVEST FESTIVAL AND FLOWER SHOW AT
THE WILD ANIMAL PARK.

Audrey Johnson


Owing to the marvellous response to my request for articles to put in our Christmas edition of "EyF", I have not too much space to record all the various areas of this spectacular show, which I do hope many of you saw.

Conceived originally by our own Katherine MacDonald (also a member of Palomar C. & S.S.) and Jim Gibbons, Horticulturalist of the Wild Animal Park, this exciting show exceeded all expectations, and is, I understand, to be a permanent feature at the Park in years to come. Katherine worked, in her usual tireless fashion, at collecting old photographs of Escondido and environs, and antique implements and artifacts from various friends of the Wild Animal Park: the florists from all over North County produced beautiful displays of flowers and fruits: many of our members participated in one way or another - John and Verna Pasek showed three tables of their beautiful plants - and there was truly something to be enjoyed by just about every type of visitor to the park. Visitors from out of State were, of course, particularly thrilled by the mounds of glowing fruits and produce of the more fertile areas of North County.

To those who ^{par} participated in any way in this great Show, I would say, please forgive me for not mentioning more names, but the heartiest congratulations to each and every one of you. I am sure that you were all very satisfied and proud of the results. To those unfortunate folks who missed this particular Show, I would like to say this: be sure to keep track of all future Plant and Flower Shows at the Wild Animal Park, of which there will be many. They grow bigger and better all the time!

A MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM ESCONDIDO -
HO, HO, HO!

Audrey Johnson



Well, folks, can you believe it? It's Christmas again. It is said that, as you grow older, time flies more quickly, and isn't that the truth!! It seems no time at all since our last festive gathering.

Actually, there is not much to report in my garden at the moment. The sometimes rather strange climate here in our little valley has switched even more rapidly than usual this year - from around 90 degrees (daytime, of course) last week to a frost on the rooftops below us this morning. I suspect that my hardy outdoor plants are a little bewildered by such a very abrupt change, and who can blame them? I am quite sure, however, that a nice gentle rainfall would perform miracles of revival in all areas, should we be lucky enough to get one!

My own special areas of Senecio Angulatus had such a fierce blooming this Fall that (failing that rainfall, soon) it will not, I'm afraid, last as long as usual this year. Right now, it is trying to make up for this by producing an imitation snowfall on the hillside (by its very fluffy seed-pods), whereas our white trailing African daisy is still only showing a very light "drift" down the driveway - lack of moisture again, of course. A slight tragedy struck one of my very favourite new garden areas recently - the roots of the water hyacinths floating on our little pool somehow clogged the drainage output, and the pump engine burnt out! I'm happy to say that all the goldfish survived, and Geoff has promised to look into the trouble over the Thanksgiving holiday, so I'm trying to be optimistic about the whole business, but - darn it anyway!!

Incidentally, we have another water problem, this time in connection with the bird bath, and I would like to ask the advice of other bird lovers in the Club. Our problem: no matter how often we clean out the bird bath (a solid, stone one), in no time at all the bottom looks black and greasy (?). Could it be that my beautiful birds are so dirty? I can hardly believe that. Any suggestions, please, for rectifying this unhappy state of affairs.....

Most of my dealings with plants at the moment are concerned with getting them ready for the "Christmas in Flowerland" Bazaar at Quail Gardens. By the time you read this, I hope we will have successfully completed another sale which will (hopefully) take care of the upkeep expenses of the Gardens until the next sale, in May. Ye Lady Ed. will be helping to sell plants, and Ye Man. Ed. (Geoff) will be taking your money, so you will have seen the Johnsons there in full force!

Along with Thanksgiving activities and last minute arrangements for "Christmas in Flowerland" (I sent the last thirty-five letters dealing with publicity off to the local news media today), I am already thinking ahead to the next Christmas show - this time at the Wild Animal Park. All being well, I hope to have a table giving suggestions upon how to use your favourite cacti and succulents for holiday decorations, and I hope to see some of you

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there. In addition to the Wild Animal and Bird Shows at the Wild Animal Park, Plant Shows, too, are always a lot of fun, so don't miss a visit over the holiday, if you can possibly spare the time.

Christmas festivities will be fitted in somewhere and somehow, I don't doubt, but then it will be time to start anticipating publicity for the Spring sale at Quail Gardens (it starts in February), with a couple of issues of "EyF" to fill in any spare moments! No wonder Christmasses whiz around so quickly when we all have so many interesting things to do...

And so - a Merry Christmas, everybody. Enjoy yourselves, but don't forget to take it easy, too. As for the New Year: the healthiest, happiest and most prosperous one ever is the wish of your Co-editors, Audrey and Geoff, to you and yours!!



ABOUT THIS & THAT.....

Ye Lady Ed.

PLANT SALES

Many thanks to the following members for their contributions to the Plant Sales Table:-

Belated thanks to Madelyn Lee for her donation of Euphorbias at the October meeting.

Also, to Riley Stanley, for his donation at the November meeting.

CORRECTION:

In the November issue of "EyF", I stated that Rhoda Radwin gave \$99.25 to the Society. This was a mistake, as all money collected from the sale of George Radwin's plants, at both the October and November meetings, went to her, and none to the Society.

Floyd Gable gave \$22.12 to the Society at the November meeting from the sale of his plants.

(Sgd.) Russel Evans,
Treasurer.

A MESSAGE TO JOYCE TATE (Y.L.Ed.)

Geoff and I were delighted to meet you and your husband, in person, (at last) at the November meeting - hitherto we had only corresponded.

Thank you so much, Joyce, for your charming and so-appropriate article about a much earlier Christmas, and for your very welcome promise of more articles in the New Year. I know that I speak for all of us when I say that we shall all be very much looking forward to them!

Our very best wishes for the coming Holiday Season to you and your family, from: The Johnsons.



Cactus-of-the-Month

Christmas Colors

Dr. Ronald E. Monroe

Even at this time of year one often finds an occasional Rhipsalis sp., epiphyllum hybrid, Schumbergera sp., Neoporteria sp., Ariocarpus sp., or Borzicactus sp. in bloom. But when one really thinks of Christmas colors in the Cactaceae, the genus Zygocactus is usually foremost on our minds. Unfortunately, serious thought is best accomplished by sitting down with a bottle of aspirin in one hand and a copy of "Roots" in the other as hybridizers have crossed the original species (plus its varieties) with so many sp. of Schlumbergera, Epiphyllum, and Cereus that nearly 300 - 350 named hybrids exist and the original plants are indeed difficult to find. Although I find this situation not quite as deplorable as that which exists for the epiphyllums, I still run into new names for just another red, white, orange, etc. flower color which borders on being down right ridiculous.

The original Zygocactus truncatus was discovered in the Organ Mountains, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, growing as an epiphyte in trees and on shaded craggy shelves in hilly places and ravines. Although Britton and Rose (1937) listed six species, current authors are considering this group as a monotypic genus with four to five varieties. The plants are bright green when grown in shaded conditions (filtered light) and the stems are much branched and jointed. Each stem-joint is flat, two-angled, and possessing two to four, more or less acute teeth on each side, the upper tooth always more pronounced. The flowers are terminal, tubular and very conspicuously zygomorphic (having bilateral symmetry), the colors ranging from red, near white and bluish violet. The fruits are pear-shaped, naked, and of varying colors which add to the beauty of these plants later in the year.

It might also be wise to mention that another genus, Epiphyllanthus, grows in the same areas as do the Zygocactus, and their flowers are nearly identical. The stems do differ in that the joints are cylindrical or somewhat flattened, with areoles scattered all over the surface, like a miniature Opuntia--these plants are extremely rare in collections.

In regards to the hybrids, one can only say that the flower colors have been "improved" (?) upon and that growth habits are altered. Plants in my own collection that are flowering now: virginialis, vigorous upright growth with white-pink flowers; kris kringle, vigorous upright growth with violet-red petals with some white basally; bicolor (often referred to as a Thanksgiving cactus), vigorous and with red-white flowers; weihnachts gluck, weak growing with orange-red flowers; W.F. Freuden, weak growing with buff-orange flowers; winter marchen, weak growing with snow white flowers and a touch of pink (beautiful!); lavender doll, very vigorous with lavender flowers; big red, vigorous with an iridescent red flower; white Christmas, very vigorous growth with white flowers and a touch of pink (also beautiful).

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Horticulturally speaking, the plants are easy to grow and propagate. I use 100% leaf mold as a potting substrate and this should be kept watered frequently (moist, never wet). During the growing season I feed bi-monthly with Miracle-Gro® and the plants are kept in ca. 50% filtered light. The worst pests by far are mealy bugs at the root zone (Cygon · 2E solves this problem) and lepidopterous larvae in late summer or early fall which eat the stems direct (malathion solves this problem). Propagation is easily done by removing individual stem-joints during April - August, allowing them to callous for three - five days and then placing them into leaf mold in two-inch pots. With adequate moisture they grow rapidly, often blooming the very next year.

References

Britton, W.L. and J.N. Rose. 1937. The Cactaceae, Dover Publications, New York; IV, pp. 177-180.

Borg, J. 1951. Cacti. Blanford Press, England; pp. 418-419.



CHRISTMAS 1775

Joyce L. Tate

As Christmas Eve 1977 nears, with all of its beauty and wonder, let us look back to another one, more than two centuries ago, as it happened in our own Anza-Borrego Desert.

When the Spanish Government realized that other Nations were interested in Alta California, it decided to send expeditions to start colonies there. In 1775, Juan de Anza, a Captain in the service of Spain, was assigned to lead a group of 225 settlers by land, across the El Camino del Diablo, through Sonora, Mexico, and Arizona and California. By December 24th, the expedition was struggling through the Yuha and Anza-Borrego Deserts, trying to find its way through Ocotillos, Chollas and Prickly Pears, Barrel Cactus, Agaves and desert shrubs. It was cold and rainy, but Captain Anza did not halt the group until the entrance to Coyote Canyon was reached. Food was prepared and shelters set up before the tired men, women and children could rest. And on that Christmas Eve, 1775, California's first white child, a boy, was born. News spread through the camp, and, to celebrate, Anza ordered extra liquor rations for the men, who celebrated into the new day.

Legend says that the child's birth was a good omen, as an unusually bright star shone directly overhead, and Christmas morning dawned bright and clear. Everyone was encouraged to go on and found the City of San Francisco.

Joyce L. Tate, Chairman
Plant Uses Committee
Cactus & Succulent Society of
America.

SUCCULENT-OF-THE-MONTH

by Rick Latimer

The Succulent of the Month for December is YOUR FAVORITE SUC-
CULENT(S). However, I will fill up this space instead with some
favorite (and peculiarly relevant) sayings in the OLD TONGUE.
These phrases had, of course, a different intent in mind than will
be used here. Often a quotation with an intended figurative mean-
ing will be interpreted here with a literal meaning and vice
versa. Some of these are suitable as mottos in the greenhouse!

Connecticut (motto of)-Qui transtulit sustinet-He who trans-
planted, sustains.

Argilla quidvis imitaberis uda-You may mould soft clay into
any shape you please or Best to bend while it is still
a twig. (Advice to a Bonsai-ist.)

Gaudiciforms-Horace-Desinit in piscem mulier formosa superni-
A woman beautiful above, ends in the tail
of a fish.

OR

Virgil-Monstrum, horrendum, informe, ingens cui
lumen ademptum-A monster, horrible, un-
shapely, gigantic and eyeless.

Tandum fit surculus arbor-A twig at length becomes a tree.

Ut sementem feceris, ita metes-Cicero-You reap just what you
sow. (Assuming the seed packet was labeled right!)

South Carolina (one of the mottoes of)-Animis opibusque parati
-Prepared in minds and resources.

Arena sine calce-Sand without lime. (A work that will not en-
dure. For us, a poor potting mix!)

Noli me tangere-Touch me not!

Desideratum-Anything much wanted.

Sociis a noscitur-He is known by his associates. (A hill as
viewed from afar may harbor unobserved cacti if agaves
are present!)

United States of America (reverse side of the great seal)-An-
nuit coeptis-He (GOD) has smiled on our undertakings.

Cicero-Meliora sunt ea, quae natura, quam illa, quae arte
perfecta sunt.-The works of nature are superior to those
which are produced by art.

~

Crescit eundo-It grows as it goes.(motto of New Mexico)
Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono-The life of the land is es-
Ltablished in righteousness. (motto of Hawaii-in Hawaiian!)

Labor omnia vincit-Labor conquers all things. (motto of Okla-
homa)

OR

Absque sudore et labore nullem opus perfectum est-With-
out sweat and toil no work is perfect.

Esto perpetua-May she (nature) endure forever. (motto of Idaho)

Nulla virtute redemptum-No redeeming points. (some Opuntias,
e. g.)

Rerence-Namque inscitia est adversum stimulum calces-For it
is stupidity to kick against pricks.

OR

Quae uncis sunt unguibus ne nutrias-Do not foster ani-
mals with hooked claws or He that handles thorns shall
prick his fingers. (Who listens to such advice?)

REFERENCES:

Jones, Hugh Percy, Dictionary of Foreign Phrases and Classical
Quotations, (Edinburgh:1949), pp. 2,13,29,69,71,73,78,81,82,
97,117, and 121.

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, fifth ed.,(Springfield, Mass.:
1946), pp. 1253-1257. (My original inspiration)

P. S.-The projected Succulent of the Month for January will be the
SUCCULENTS OF THE CANARY ISLANDS. So get your Aeoniums,
etc. in order!

**SEASONS
GREETINGS**



SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	H. Warren Buckner	1744 Englewood Drive Lemon Grove, Ca. 92045	469-1391
FIRST VICE- PRESIDENT	Thomas Hamecher	996 Terrace Crest El Cajon, Ca. 92020	440-6245
SECOND VICE- PRESIDENT	Gerald Dice	3354 Mohican Avenue San Diego, Ca. 92117	276-2589
RECORDING SECRETARY	Doris F. Rake	4410 38th. Street San Diego, Ca. 92116	282-1722
TRESURER	Russel Evans	3115 Nile Street San Diego, Ca. 92104	284-5859
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Elizabeth Athy	3990 Apore Street La Mesa, Ca. 92041	469-7647
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Martin L. Mooney	97 K Street Chula Vista, Ca. 92011	427-6796

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One year term:	John Pasek and Perlso Lewis
Two year term:	Shirley Berry and Julianne Rice
Three year term:	Joan Johnson and Richard Latimer

COMMITTEES

ACTIVITIES:	Martin L. Mooney
EDUCATION:	
CACTI:	Dr. Ronald Monroe, and Anthony D'Atillio
SUCCULENTS:	Richard Latimer and Madelyn R. Lee
EXHIBITS:	
FAIR:	Tom & Marcia Hamecher Richard Latimer and Elizebeth Athy
OPEN HOUSE:	Julianne Rice
LIBRARY:	Edith Werner, Pat Mooney and Helen Hegyi
MEMBERSHIP:	Russel Evans
PLANTS & SUPPLIES:	Gerald Dice
PROGRAMS:	Tom Hamecher
PUBLICATION:	Audrey & Geoff Johnson (Phone: 745-5773)
RECEPTION:	Perlso Lewis and Edith Billmyer
REGALEMENT:	May Andrews, Pat Elkington, Nancy Hulshizer, Katherine McDonald, and Ruth Penprase.
HISTORIAN:	Richard Latimer
AUDIT:	Paul Johnson and James Berry
CONSERVATION:	Dr. Ronald Monroe
PLANT EXCHANGE:	Ione Hubner, Harriett Sopp and Frances Johnson
REPRESENTATIVES:	
San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation	- Rose D'Atillio
San Diego Floral Association	- Verna Pasek
Quail Botanical Gardens	- Audrey Johnson
Balboa Park Desert Garden	-

The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing Cacti, Other Succulents, and Exotic Plants.

Dues are \$6.00 annually; Single copies of Espinas y Flores are \$0.50.

Meetings are the second Saturday of each month, 1:30 p.m. in Room 101 of Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. (Exceptions noted in Espinas y Flores.)

Executive Board Meeting after the General Meeting.

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ISSUE.....DECEMBER 20th. PLEASE

Audrey Johnson
1226 Citracado Pky.
Escondido, CA 92025
Address Correction Requested