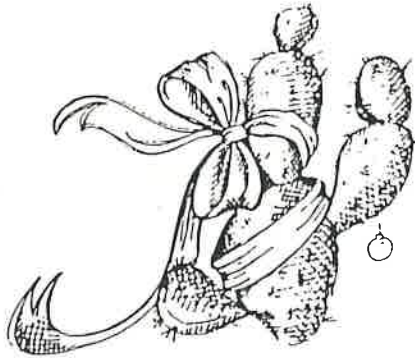


THE CACTUS COMPANION
LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB
HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 1988

THIS ISSUE:
HOLIDAY PARTY.
VIRGINIA MARTIN.
BOARD MEETING.
CORRECTIONS.
EXHORTATIONS.
BITTERROOT VLY.
LEAVITT CARTOON.
MEMBER NEWS.



THE CACTUS ELF
SAYS: HAVE A
GLORIOUSLY CACTOPHILIC
HOLIDAY AND NEW YEAR!!



SEASONS
GREETINGS

Newsletter





IF A MAN WILL BEGIN WITH CERTAINTIES,
HE SHALL END IN DOUBTS. BUT IF HE
CAN BE CONTENT TO BEGIN WITH DOUBTS,
HE MAY END IN CERTAINTIES.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 1989 OFFICERS:

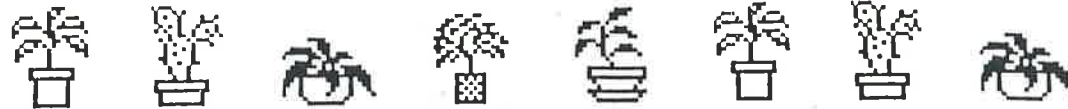
President Rowena Thompson 213-835-0393; VP Kathi Reyes 213-591-7330;
Secretary Pat Kelley 213-639-6439; Treasurer Jim Hanna 213-920-3046;
Board Members: Eleanor Barker, Larry Grammer, Bill Hagblom, Laverne
Pitzer, & Audrey Tucker.

MEMBERSHIP: Regular membership is \$8, seniors \$5, & each associate
(same household) membership is \$1.50, regardless of age. (A senior
membership is for retired persons, age 65.) Please send check made
out to the LBCC to Jim Hanna, 6019 Pepperwood Ave., Lakewood 90712.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR OFFICERS & HARDWORKING COMMITTEE
CHAIRMEN & MEMBERS!!!! THE SOCIETY COULD NOT DO IT WITH-
OUT YOU!!!!

WANTED: A FEW MORE DEDICATED PEOPLE TO HELP OUT. THERE
ARE BIG JOBS AND LITTLE ONES. AND BECOMMING INVOLVED IS
THE WAY TO LEARN AND TO HAVE FUN & BECOME REALLY ONE OF
THE GROUP!

NEEDED: ALONG WITH A PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN VOLUNTEER, WE
ALSO NEED A REFRESHMENTS CHAIRMAN VOLUNTEER! PLEASE
LET ONE OF THE OFFICERS KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP!



DEPARTMENT OF ERRORS & CORRECTIONS:

Last month's newsletter contained 2 major errors much regretted by your
editor. Here then are the corrections:

1. The HOLIDAY Party & Potluck Feast will be DECEMBER 18, not
Nov. 18.
2. Tambra Minnich's POTATO SALAD RECIPE was missing 2 cups
of MAYONNAISE.

Sorry everybody!!!! Oh, & Ted 's Rudolph Valentino photo was taken
when he was 19, but he was no doubt just as handsome at 20!



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE LONG BEACH C&S SOCIETY
OCT 30, 1988

PRESENT AT MEETING: Rowena Thompson, Rose Wey, Ted Taylor, Carol
Wujcik, Jim Hanna, Terry Goewert, Clem Goewert

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM by president
Rowena Thompson.

Terry Goewert read the minutes of the July board meeting.

Jim Hanna gave the treasurer's report. Currently about \$2,496 in
the checking account.

The auction-We made about \$900 for the club on the auction.
The cost of plants at the auction, and whether the club should
provide refreshments at the auction next year were discussed.
Carol Wujcik moved that the club provide refreshments, munchies,
and cold cuts for the people attending the next auction. Terry
Goewert seconded, motion carried. It was suggested that we could
have a "contribution can" for people to pay towards the
refreshments, if they desired. Carol wanted to thank the
following: the Thoerners for donating their home for the auction
place, Woody, Victor and John for auctioneering, Bill for helping
show the plants & the Goewerts for the use of their computer.

The Inter City Show: Report on pictures taken at the show: Woody
has the slides. There will be one photo album for each club.
(Kathy Reyes has ours & hopes to present it for the Christmas
party.) Cost-about \$75.00 for the book. There is only one
Inter-City T shirt left. The photo & Cacti related crafts
section was a bigger success than anticipated. More participation
is expected next year. Location for the awards dinner was
discussed-it should be brought up at the first meeting of the
1989 show committee. Having a membership table at the show was
discussed-We felt that it was very important to have the table
manned at the show, but sending newsletter to prospective members
has not been very effective. There is a concern that we are
competing with the CBSA show-should we, as a club, support them
more?-other problems were discussed.

OVER

The Christmas party will be Dec 18th at Audrey & Darrell Tucker's home. 3rd Sunday. 1:00 PM. It will be a potluck, the club will furnish ham & turkey. A motion was passed for the club to furnish ham, turkey cutlery & paper plates for the party. The club will furnish a few extra plants for the plant exchange. The award plants for the plant of the month will be given at the party. Two Cacti & Two Succulent - One of each for Novice & Advanced. Point system used: 3 points for a first, 2 for a second, 1 for a third. We will have a holiday decorated plant competition - a \$10.00 plant to be given. The winner to be voted on at the party by club members. Volunteers needed for cooking the ham & turkey. We may have a mini program at the party. The installation of next year's officers will also be during the party. Lillian True will be asked to do the honors.

Early renewal plants are to be bought, we need about 50. Do honorary members get a free plant?

A new membership chair is needed. La Verne Pitzer will not be able to be publicity chair again.

We need to have a new membership list. Clem Goewert offered to help do that on the computer.

Carol Wujcik will do a small talk on the plant of the month at each meeting, starting in January - will try to coordinate the subject with the speaker.

Will Audrey Tucker be the Program Chair again this year? She has done a good job last year. We need the librarian to be at more meetings.

Carol asked for suggestions for the newsletter. Terry suggested taking pictures of auto license plates with cactus-related words on them.

The slate for the 1989 Officers: President, Rowena Thompson; Vice President, Kathi Reyes; Secretary, Pat Kelley; Treasurer, Jim Hanna. Board Members: Ted Taylor, past President, Eleanor Barker, Larry Grammer, Bill Hagbolom, Laverne Pitzer, Audrey Tucker.

The Dominguez garden, whether or not we are set for a meeting room for next year, and that Ted is doing another slide show were discussed briefly.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM

THE COMPLEAT ROADRUNNER BIO QUESTIONNAIRE

This month, for the holiday season, and to end the old year & begin the new year right, we are pleased to present LBCC member Virginia Martin's completed questionnaire. In fact, it is the most "compleat" we have received to date. Virginia is a past president of CSSA and is current CSSA Corresponding Secretary. She is a Fellow of the Society, and an Honorary Member of the Calif. Cactus Growers. A writer as well as hobbyist grower, she has been published numerous times in the national CSSA Journal. Here, then, are her responses to the questionnaire:

1. How did you get hooked, and when?

(1) - For most people, their account of how they got "hooked" on the growing of cactus and the other succulents, is pleasant to recall. I know it is with me. In December 1960, I was working with the U.S. Navy in Pasadena, California. One day one of my coworkers told me she had a few cactus plants and wanted to learn more about them. She asked me if I would go with her to see a Mr. Scott Haselton who sold Cactus books and also might have some plants for sale. So, after work (4:00PM) one afternoon we went to his place of business - Abbey Garden Press - on Union Street, Pasadena. Unbeknownst to us at that time, he had recently sustained a terrible fire and had suffered the loss of a large amount of his book inventory. Nevertheless he invited us in and greeted us warmly cautioning us to watch our steps as books, office materials, plants were strewn about where he was attempting to sort out what he was able to save. My friend, Sena, started talking to him about cactus. I listened intently trying to absorb what they were talking about. Sena spoke of her growing interest in Euphorbias, a group of plants which I learned included the Poinsettia - ah - a familiar name, although I was informed this was not a "succulent" member of the family. At this point I seemed to be in on the conversation.

Mr. Haselton seemed to warm to our enthusiasm and we really hit it off with him. Sena even knew about a monograph - the celebrated "The Succulent Euphorbieae" by White, Dyer and Sloane, in two volumes. Mr. Haselton was pleased with this, informing us that Abbey Garden Press had published this wonderful work. Sena inquired as to whether or not this work was available and that she would like to purchase it. Well, Mr. Haselton was definitely in a receptive and mellow mood and told her that he did not have any of the set for sale at the present time but that if she wished to go out on the street in front of his building and go through the trash cans she probably could locate copies of the 2 volumes as well as the 3-volume "The Stapelieae" by White & Sloane, if she was interested. He also invited me to pick out copies of each of the sets for myself. He had a phone call at that time and told us to go take a look and to come back in. So we did. Sena

could hardly contain herself as she knew of these prestige volumes. Sure enough we located copies for each of us of the 2 and 3-volume sets. Although the bindings and edges of the pages were slightly singed, none of the pages or information was destroyed. To this day they smell of the fire and smoke damage, but they are the heart of my Plant Library. What a marvelous gift. I have read them completely through and peruse them often as I need their information, always recalling this wonderful gentleman and the circumstances under which they came to be mine.

That same afternoon I acquired my first 10 cactus plants, the majority of which I still have today. Mr. Haselton had received a shipment of plants from Mexico for someone and they had not and were not going to pick them up. He asked if we would want them for \$20.00 (20 plants, \$1.00 each). Our enthusiasm still mounting, we agreed to buy them together and each take half. So we picked and chose - one for Sena and one for me, one for Sena and one for me, etc., while Mr. Haselton told us about the plants, identifying them and telling from where they came. So my cactus collection and Library was started with no previous introduction. What a wonderful friendship with Scott was formed. For many years I was in personal contact with him. When he and his wife moved to Vermont, correspondence followed.

Incidentally, during this visit in 1960, Sena asked if there were any local Cactus Clubs we could join. He quickly referred us to the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society and gave the phone number of Don & Murray Skinner. So Sena, her husband and I attended our first local Cactus Meeting in January 1961. And what did we find besides a very friendly and knowledgeable group of people, they told of the upcoming CSSA Convention to be held in Mexico city in June 1961. We soon learned that this was a "going" group and did in fact attend our first CSSA Convention in 1961 where I became acquainted with my "Special Friend", Ted Taylor.

2. Do you consider yourself a cactophile? Or othersucculentophile?

3. Do you have a specialty within the great world of Cacti & Succulents?

(2) Although I started as a Cactophile, I soon became an othersucculentophile as well and continue to be interested in all Families today.

(3) Within the great world of Cacti & Succulents for several years I have been especially interested in Lithops. This is a wonderful group in which to watch the changes in their life - the blooming period, for me, usually from September through December with their bright yellow and white ray flowers, their dormant period which follows in which the old bodies shrivel, the new bodies appearing and "feeding" - drawing their nourishment and sustenance from the old bodies, then growing to their full size with bright markings and windows before the blooms of the next season start to form. It is a delight and also a need to watch these dramatic changes as they are the key to when you should give the plants water.



4. **Favorite Cactus:
Succulent:**
5. **What's hardest for you to grow (ie. easiest to kill)?
Do you know why?**
6. **What plants don't you have but would "die for"?**
7. **What would your nomination be for ugliest succulent?
(The one only a plant mother could love?)**
8. **Describe your growing space?**

(4)a) My favorite Cactus is *Mammillaria saboae* & varieties because of the friends and travels associated with them.

(4)b) - My favorite other Succulent is *Adenium obesum* because of its neat leafy green appearance, interesting caudex and beautiful large pink to red flowers.

(5) The hardest Cactus for me to grow is *Mammillaria saboae* & varieties. I soon learned that these little plants would not survive for me if they are left outside unprotected from the winter rains. But why, in a fiberglass house under controlled watering (practically none), I do not know. I try to blame it on the area.

(6) At this time I do not really know of any plants that I do not have that I would "die" for. Like many other growers I am sure, I am not able to care properly for the number I have so I am not adding or aspiring to any new ones.

(7) My nomination for the ugliest succulent would be *Euphorbia pachyclada*. Its unattractive coloring and strange and unpredictable growth habit, reptilian in nature, do not really "send me".

(8) My growing space comprises a good portion of the backyard with plantings in the ground of an area of approximately 40'x30' for cactus.

Two smaller areas of ground plantings of the other succulents are about 12'x20' (dominated by my 60'+ *Chorisia speciosa*) and a 20'x40' freeform area of Aloes, Agaves, Mesembs. My fiberglass house 12'x24' and a saran covered house 12'x15' contain my potted collection. There is also a small area, about 15'x8' at the back of the living house (patio) where small potted succulents live.

9. Describe YOU as a grower?

10. If you were on a desert island, & could have only one

a. CACTUS, what would it be, & why?

b. SUCCULENT, what would it be, & why?

c. C & S BOOK, what would it be, & why?

(9) I would describe myself as a grower of plants I continue to enjoy after many years. I no longer have "Show" plants but they continue to grow (mostly on their own) and reward me with many flowers.

(10) If I could only have one cactus, it would probably be a *Gymnocalycium*. So many of the species of this genus are profuse and dependable bloomers, sending out flowers most any time of the year.

(10)b) - *Adenium obesum* for reasons stated in 4b.

(10)c) - My C&S book would be "The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Succulents" by Gordon Rowley, which affords most interesting and informative reading on a great variety of plants, with excellent pictures.

11. If you were not a cactophile/succulentophile, what would you be doing instead?

12. What does the C & S hobby/profession mean to you?

13. Comment, Complaint, Philosophy of Life as a cactus/succulent grower? Etc.?

(11) As I have always loved plants, if I were not a cactophile or succulentophile, I would be a "general gardener" growing roses and camellias, etc.

(12) The C&S hobby means the greatest of friends and treasured experiences with these fabulous plants.

(13) Comment - From the joys I have known and continue to realize in the growing of cactus and the other succulents, my first encounter as noted in #1 I feel, was "meant to be".

Virginia

ED HENNESSEY WAS ONE OF OUR FIRST ROADRUNNERS TO RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRE. ALTHOUGH BRIEF, WHAT ED HAD TO SAY ABOUT HOW HE WAS "HOOKED" BY CACTI & SUCCULENTS WAS MOST INTERESTING:

"I was 'hooked' because of the sculptural, almost inert/mineral beauty of certain succulents and cacti -- with assistance from the fact that these durable forms do not require intensive care."

Ed considers himself both a cactophile & othersucculentophile. The hardest plant for him to grow is *Anacampseros alsonii* -- because of overwatering. And his nomination for ugliest succulent would be *Euphorbia ornithopus*: "The one no mother could love!"

NEXT MONTH: ROADRUNNERS LILLIAN TRUE, PAT KELLEY & VISITOR SARMIS LUTERS REVEAL ALL!



AND NOW SOME "CHRISTMAS TIDBITS" FROM THE NATIONAL CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL, DEC. 1970 (England).

PROVERBS FOR PLANTSMEN: the true origin of some sayings and quotations, revealed by J.W.Martin.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you"
Yourself after getting first prize for the best *Mammillaria* in show.

"Weep and you weep alone."
Yourself after an upheld objection that Messrs. Buxberg, Backebaum & Co. have just reclassified your plant as a *Pereskia*.

"Many hands make light work"
The fate of your plants left unattended in the last minutes of a large general show.

"From ghoulies and ghosties and long leggety beasties, and things that go bump in the night, Good Lord deliver us."
Prayer for the averting of mealy-bugs, red spiders and cats from green-houses.

"The wicked never prosper"
Your hope after using the latest insecticide on your mealy-bugs.

"Discretion is the better part of valor:"
Letting someone else try out the next new insecticide first.

Now that this year is over,
Bound together by one strong band -
We're better friends than before,
Exploring the wonders of CactusLand!
- Mrs. George Olsan, 40's
via the Mid-Iowa Newsletter

Above Santa drawing is from the Calif. Cactus Grower's Dec. 1988 Newsletter.

CHRISTMAS CHEER (?)

Not all common names are alike. Fresno's CACTUS CORNER for Feb. 1987 includes a translation of Chinese characters for the labeling of plants. Please see the translations to the right. The contributor, Lienyan Lee of Taiwan wrote: "Another source of fun comes from their names. We habitually use Chinese characters to label our plants. (Latin names are used only when these Chinese ones are lacking). Most of these names are borrowed from Japan, along with the plants imported from there. These names, unlike their Latin equivalents, leave space for imagination.

雪不林 --"Snow on pine tree"
(*Haworthia attenuata*)

臥牛 --"Buffalo lying leisurely"
(*Haworthia armstrongii*)

萬象 --"Thousands of elephants"
(*Haworthia manghanii*)

奇想天外 --"Dreaming into outspace"
(*Welwitschia mirabilis*)

HOWEVER! The following Latin candidates for the "Ugly Names List" do tickle the imagination.

EUPHORBIA ZOUTPANSBERGENSIS from S. Africa
ALOE GLOBULIGEMMA also from S. Africa

NOT IN THE BOARD MTG. MINUTES: Someone suggested we sing the following Christmas Carols at our Party;

"Oh, Joshua Tree, Oh Joshua Tree..."

"Oh Little Town of Vista..."

"Deck the Halls with Merry Mams..."

"I'm dreaming of a White Christmas Cactus..."

"What Species is This?" (Sung by the Kew Taxonomic Choir)

"Away in a Nursery..."

"Angelensis We Have Seen on High..."

"Rubra the Red-Bodied Optica"

"Oh Come All Ye Faithful" (Song by the Colorado CSSA Conventioneers!)

The possibilities are endless. We hope lightning will not strike the perpetrators of the above. (Actually only the first 3 were thought up at the board mtg. She who types this is to blame for the rest).

NEWS OF & FOR & BY MEMBERS

WIND DAMAGE: Ted Taylor reports that Virginia Martin had major wind damage during the recent windstorm. Plants & buildings suffered. At the Huntington Botanical Gardens, there was also damage to plants & building statuary. In the desert garden, a large Idria fell, but will be resurrected through cuttings. Joe Clements is skillful at getting these big babies to reroot.

EPI SALE: A former LBCC member, Edith Karm, 1658 Collin St., LA 90026, 213-413-2693, is selling her epi collection for reasonable prices. Many are mature old specimens. Call first for a time & for directions.

LIBRARY: At our December potluck feast, it will be a perfect time to return those books which are due to our LBCC library -- because the party will be at the home of the librarian! Inventory will be taken during January -- another time to bring back books. Inventory will be complete by Feb. meeting.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO WILL COOK OUR HOLIDAY PARTY HAM & TURKEY. WE UNDERSTAND LAVERNE HAS VOLUNTEERED TO COOK THE HAM. DO WE HAVE A VOLUNTEER TO COOK THE TURKEY? CALL KATHI OR ROWENA.

THANKS ALSO TO THE TUCKERS FOR HOSTING OUR HOLIDAY PARTY! PLUS THEY WILL PROVIDE THE COFFEE, TEA, BUTTER.

NOVEMBER MEETING: Kathi reports that Sean Hogan's talk was excellent, and also that the slate was elected, Darryl Tucker was treasurer for the day, the Club renewed its CSSA membership, & THE CLUB NEEDS WORKERS!

ACTUALLY, Kathi reported that certain jobs need filling. Which means we need members who'll help.

HOW CAN WE ENCOURAGE NEW MEMBERS & OLD ONES TO BECOME INVOLVED. THIS AFTER ALL IS THE WAY TO LEARN & ENJOY.

LONGTIME MEMBERS: PLEASE WEAR NAME BADGES.

DON'T FORGET ROADRUNNER QUESTIONNAIRES....& SEND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE CLUB ITSELF TO MEMBERSHIP JIM HANNA.

TIME TO RENEW!



THE BITTERROOT VALLEY

On the next page is a contribution from Audrey Tucker, who writes that of all places she's lived, "the Valley is where my heart is!" Sean Hogan, last month's speaker, likely spoke of the "Bitterroot".

THE BITTERROOT VALLEY

As one enters Montana from Lost Trail Pass (north of Salmon, Idaho), the descent is rapid into one of the most beautiful valleys anywhere in the world. Expect to fall back in time about 50 years as you enter the valley. Life is peaceful and serene here and has been for generations.

The Bitterroot Valley is in the southwestern corner of Montana. It's western border is the Selway-Bitterroot Wildemess area and it's eastern border is the Sapphire Mountains. The valley is narrow - approximately 10 miles across. North and south the valley stretches 90 miles from the tiny town of Sula to Missoula, a bustling city and the home of the University of Montana. There is breathtakingly beautiful mountain scenery to be appreciated. Trapper Peak near Darby rises majestically to over 10,000 feet.

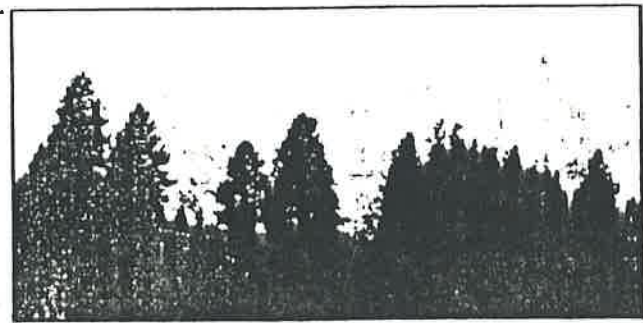
Hamilton is the largest town in the Bitterroot Valley. It was not founded as a pioneer village, unlike other small towns. It was a "company town" from its very beginning. Marcus Daly, who was one of the state's great copper "kings" came to the Bitterroot Valley in the 1880's. He fell in love with the mild climate and beauty. Since he raised race horses, he felt the area would be perfect for his horses. Also, the ample timber of the area was needed by his mines and smelters.

He had the Daly mansion built, which is beautiful inside and out. The grounds have trees imported from all over the world, swimming pool, tennis courts, laundry house and "dollhouse" built for the Daly children. The mansion is now open to the public. (The valley has several other museums as well.)

The Bitterroot Valley, with its rivers, streams, lakes, and mountains, offer some of the best hunting and fishing in the northwest states.

Summer is a wonderful time of the year to be in the Bitterroot Valley. Many enjoy the mild climate and recreation spanning from boating to exploring the miles and miles of mountain trails. Wildlife is plentiful and seen everywhere - take a backroad any direction and you will see something, whether it be a deer, moose, hawk, fox etc. And the Lee Metcalf Wildlife Refuge of Stevensville always has an abundance of wild fowl.

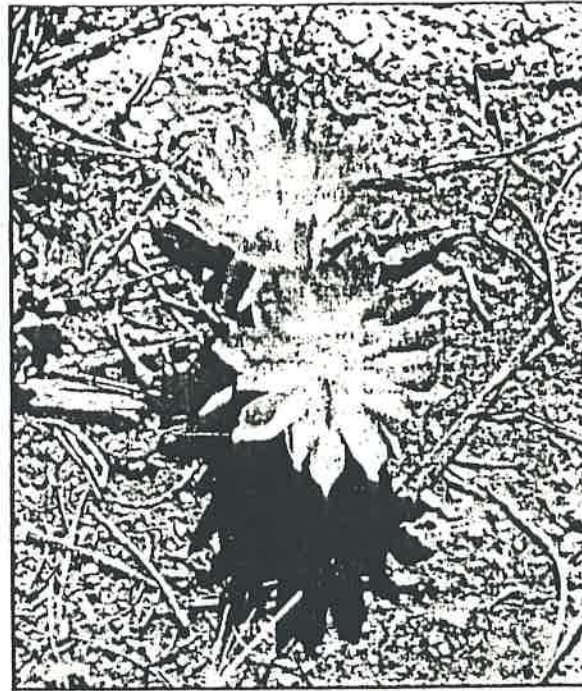
Fall also is a gorgeous season in the Bitterroot Valley. The leaves of the many deciduous trees turn vibrant fall colors and the air is crisp and invigorating.



Winter sports include downhill skiing, snow mobiling, and cross-country skiing. One of the best ski resorts in the state is located on Lost Trail Pass.

Life in the Bitterroot Valley is western living at its best! Just ask anyone who lives there. A word of warning, be careful - the Bitterroot Valley may capture your heart!

Photos By Betty Jo Olson
Bitterroot Flower
Trapper Peak



CALENDAR

Dec. 18, Sunday, 1:00 PM - LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY & POTLUCK FEAST! Details inside newsletter.

Jan. 22, Sunday, 1:00 - Regular LBCC Meeting at the Library.

Jan. 29, Sunday, 1:00 - Probable LBCC Board Meeting Day.



GOOD NEWS: INTER-CITY SHOW DATES ARE SET: AUG. 19 & 20!

Add these dates to your 1989 calendar.

CREDITS:

Drawing to the left is from the Dec. 1987 SUCCULENTA.

Cactus elf with Fero (back cover) & Fouquieria & Glochid the Car (front cover) are by editor.

BERIBBONED cacti are from a 1984 ABBEY GARDEN gift catalog, with permission.

THE FLEA

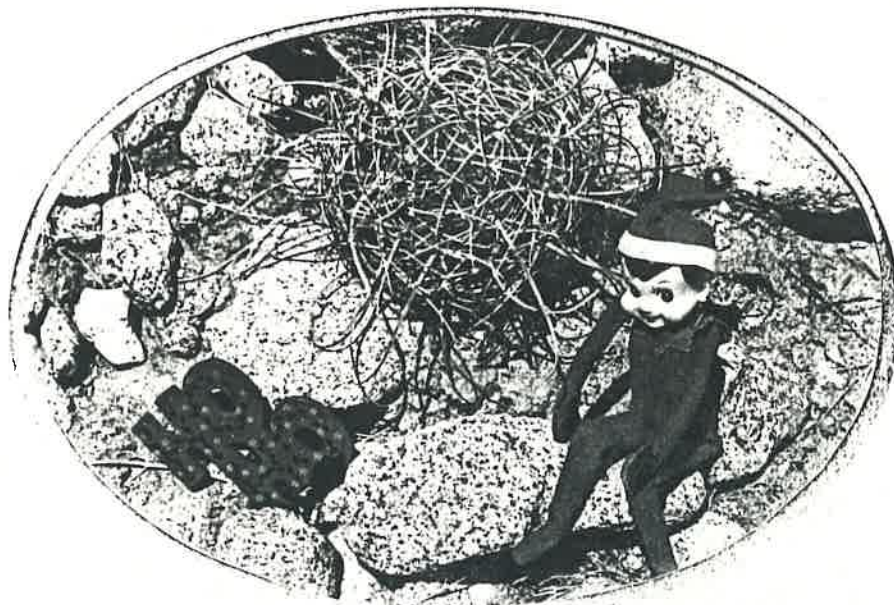
THERE IS A VILLAIN...
AND THE VILLAIN IS THE FLEA.

ALL THE ANIMALS DO AGREE,
OF ALL THE VILLAINS IN HISTORY...
THERE IS NO GREATER VILLAINY.

JIM SANFORD

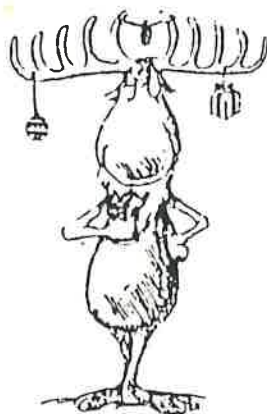
Unless it be mealybugs!

THEY SAY A PICTURE SPEAKS A THOUSAND WORDS,
BUT IT TAKES WORDS TO MAKE THAT STATEMENT.



SEASONS GREETINGS

THE CACTUS COMPANION
Newsletter of the Long Beach Cactus Club
10860 El Mar Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708



FIRST CLASS
FIRST CLASS
FIRST CLASS →