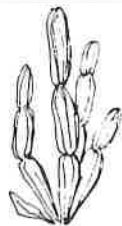


"TO KNOW SOMEONE HERE OR THERE WITH WHOM YOU CAN FEEL THERE IS UNDERSTANDING IN SPITE OF DISTANCES OR THOUGHTS UNEXPRESSED — THAT CAN MAKE OF THIS EARTH A GARDEN." ...Goethe



DECEMBER 1987 LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB

Newsletter



Gymnocalycium multiflorum

C. Wolters '86

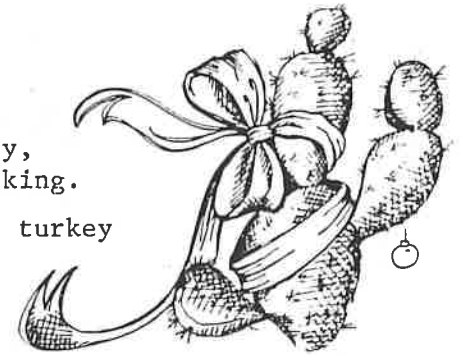


LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB

HOLIDAY POTLUCK FEAST AND PARTY!

This Sunday, December 27 at 1:00

The Community Room of the Iacoboni Library,
5020 Clark Avenue, Lakewood. Lots of parking.



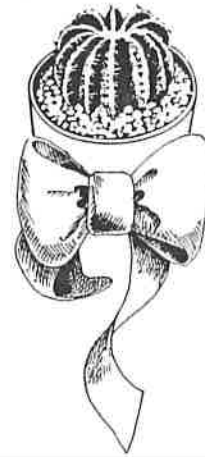
1. THE FEAST: The Club voted to furnish the turkey and ham. Or was it turkey or ham?! The editor hopes somebody knows, and that somebody has been designated to bring it/them! Our Club is notorious for what it can put away!

EVERYBODY: Bring a potluck dish, ie. casserole, finger food, veggies, munchies, breads, desserts, etc. — with serving utensils if needed.

ALSO, remember to bring your PLACE SETTING, plate and fork, spoon, knife.

2. MYSTERY PROGRAM: Audrey promises we will be surprised with a program, or that we can expect a surprise program. The only clue she would give is: "Open your ears and eyes, and sharpen your wits!!!"
3. TABLE CENTERPIECES for decoration, or DECORATED PLANTS OR DISH GARDENS FOR THE HOLIDAY BRAGGING TABLE! This is optional, but always lends to a festive air.
4. FREE PLANT if you've paid your 1988 dues. That's everybody, right?!!!
5. UNWRAPPED GIFT for the OPTIONAL GIFT EXCHANGE. (See rules below.)
6. INSTALLATION of 1988 OFFICERS, and almost no business meeting!
7. No plant of the month or sales plants this month. These will resume in January.

OPTIONAL GIFT EXCHANGE: Each member who wishes to participate should bring an unwrapped goodlooking quality cactus or succulent of some maturity in an attractive (at least clean) pot with the name of the plant on one side of the label and the giver's name on the other. Your gift will be placed on the gift exchange table. Whoever has brought the best plant (a unilateral decision by one of our seasoned members) will start the exchange by choosing the gift he/she wants. Whoever brought the one he/she selects will then have next choice. This continues until all gifts are gone. The plant which started it all — which was selected as best at the beginning of the exchange — will be auctioned.



WEAR NAMETAGS! WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Renewal information is on a following page.



1988 RENEWAL INFORMATION:

Regular membership is \$8, senior membership is \$5, and each associate (same home) membership is \$1.50, regardless of age. (A senior membership is for a retired person, 65). Checks should be made out to LBCC, or Long Beach Cactus Club. Please send to:

Marge Snyder, 19009-308 Laurel Park Road
Dominguez Hills, CA 90220

or

Terry Dew, 5328 Carita
Long Beach, CA 90808

If you renew by the Holiday Party, a free gift plant will be yours.

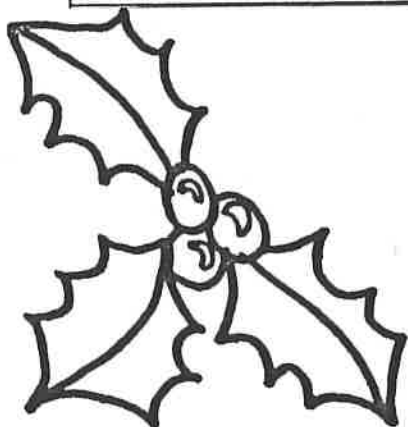
Below are some words on networking within the plant world!

"I have to laugh when I think how shy I was about daring to join the 'experts'; my experience has been pure pleasure. I've learned a lot, volunteered time to useful projects, and made many new friends - and I usually come home from meetings with a new plant....

The gardener's resource is other gardeners. The more you get into the network, the greater your pleasure will be!"

Barbara J. Barton
GARDENING BY MAIL
Tusker Press, '86
PO Box 597004
San Francisco 94159

SOME SAD NEWS: Harry Johnson died recently after a long illness. He was 93, and during much of his life, he made quite a difference to the cactus world. Almost all of us have heard of Johnson's Nursery, even if we never had the chance to visit it.



December 1987

NEWSLETTER

DEVASTATION IN ENGLISH GARDENS

The ferocious wind storm which hit southern England by surprise on the morning of October 16 damaged thousands of trees in famous English gardens. According to Arthur Bell, the Director of Kew, "only about one-third of Kew is open even now to the public because of potential danger from unsafe trees." Bell estimates that 2,000 trees at Kew have been lost or will have to be cut down because they are so damaged. This represents perhaps eight to ten percent of the trees at Kew. Fortunately, none of the greenhouses at Kew was seriously damaged.

But in perspective, Kew was not the worst hit garden even though it has received the most publicity. At the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley, the Society's Director, Chris Brickell, estimates that possibly as many as 40 percent of the large trees have been destroyed. Like Kew, parts of Wisley have still not reopened to the public. Brickell emphasized that the damage was largely to the biggest trees, the lindens, the oaks, the pines, and the tulip trees or, in his words, "the fabric of the garden."

Other areas were hit very hard, too. Wakehurst Place Garden, which is operated by Kew as a scientific and conservation adjunct to the main Kew property but owned by the National Trust (a private organization), was among the worst hit. Bell said his staff cannot even get to Wakehurst yet because of the fallen trees still on the road; an assessment from the air by helicopter, however, indicates that over 50 percent of the large trees have been destroyed. Also hard hit were Chartwell in Kent and Sheffield Park, Capability Brown's landscape in Sussex. Twenty major estate gardens and woodlands run by the National Trust were seriously damaged, including the 18th-century Claremont garden near Esher in Surrey.

Richard H. Daley, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, recently announced the creation of a special fund at the Society to provide help to these gardens. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society's Relief Fund for English Gardens will be used exclusively to provide aid to the Royal Horticultural Society, Kew and the British National Trust properties and help them obtain replacement plants.

As an initial response, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society has offered to replace Kew's three tulip trees, and Morris Arboretum, with the support of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, has sent four arborists to England for a week's worth of work at Wakehurst Place. The *AARCA Newsletter* will keep members up-to-date on the gardens' progress during cleanup and restoration and special assistance or plants that may be needed.

If it isn't too much rain, it's a strong wind!



RESERVATION INFORMATION

RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN
JANUARY 10th

1st SOUTHWEST SUCCULENT
CONFERENCE
February 19,20,21, 1988
PALM AIRE MOTOR INN,
Weslaco, Texas

We proudly announce this 1st SOUTHWEST SUCCULENT CONFERENCE which is to be held at the Palm Aire Motor Inn. This is prime time in the Valley and have reserved their meeting rooms and made arrangements for your evening meal on Friday and three meals on Saturday to be covered by your registration fee.

FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. You are asked to phone in your reservation by calling the 800 number listed on Room Rate Schedule shown on page 3.

We hope you think the rates are reasonable. It would be great if everyone stayed, ate and attended all the meetings "under one roof". Here is a preliminary schedule;

Friday evening-	Patio Buffet- Mexican Food	6PM-8PM
	TACSS Meeting	8PM
Saturday-	Breakfast Buffet	7:30AM
	1st Speaker	8:30AM
	2nd Speaker	9:30AM
	BREAK	10:30 to 11AM
	3rd Speaker	11AM
	Lunch Deli Buffet	NOON
	4th Speaker	1PM-2PM
	MINI SHOW JUDGED	2PM

At this time folks may visit close by dealers or go over to Mexico.

DINNER BANQUET with Speakers 8PM

Sunday- Visit more Valley dealers before heading for home. Maps will be provided.

Send this form to Mary Jo Gussett, 11807 Dover, Houston, TX 77031
Phone number is 713-498-8903 if there are any questions.

Valley contact is Harold and Joann De Young
Rt. #2 Box #417, Raymondville, TX 78580/512-642-3569

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND MAIL IT WITH YOUR CHECK BY January 10th.
(Make check payable to "TACSS")

Reservation Fee	Number of People	Registration fee enclosed
<u>45.00</u> each	x _____	_____

I HAVE MADE THE FOLLOWING RESERVATIONS AT THE PALM AIRE MOTOR INN.

_____ room for Friday and Saturday nights.

I hope to arrive at _____.

NAME: _____

Dear Club President,

We would like to inform you about our Southwest Succulent Conference. As you know, during the off-year of CSSA's National Convention, area conferences are held. The Eastern Conference will be held in Baltimore in September, 1988, the Mid-America Conference is in Des Moines, Iowa in June, 1988, and now Texas is going to host the 1st S. W. Conference, February 19,20, and 21, 1988. It will be held in the Rio Grande Valley in Weslaco, Texas. Enclosed are some information sheets with the details.

Maybe you know someone who heads south for the winter. Many go to the Texas Rio Grande Valley. This is prime time in the Valley. We're inviting all interested folks to attend our conference. Please announce this to your club members.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Gussett

You are invited to attend
a

**SOUTHWEST
SUCCULENT
CONFERENCE**
in the Rio Grande Valley
FEBRUARY 19,20,21
1988

There will be 5 noted speakers including:

*Seymour Linden-
President of CSSA.*

*Charles B. McDonald-
Endangered Species Botanist
for U.S. Dept. of Interior*

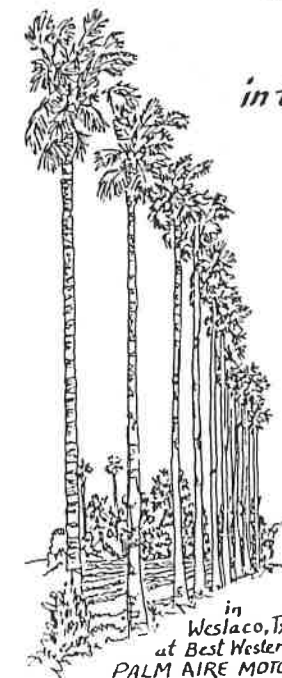
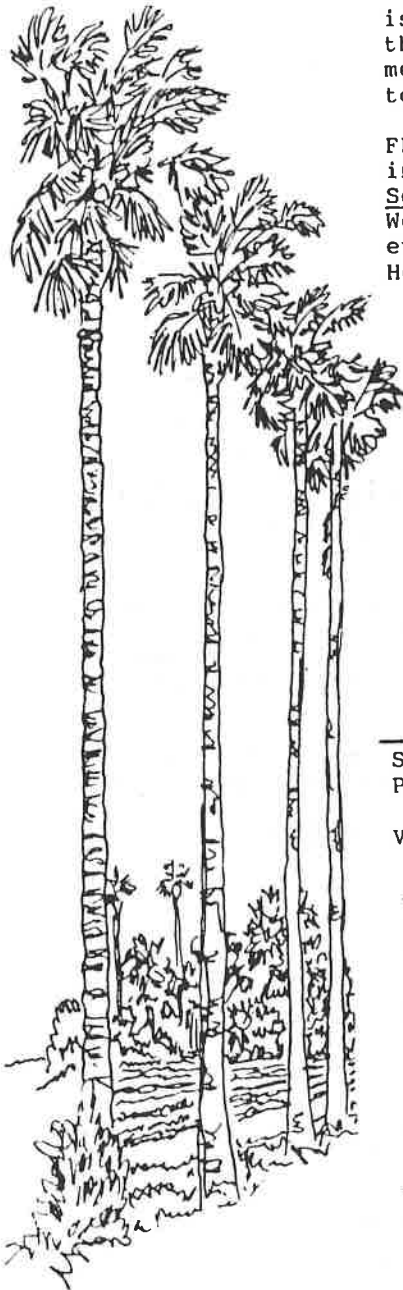
*Bill Woodard- CSSA Bd. Memb.
Judging Specialist*

Rich May- Journal Contributor

SPONSORED BY TAC.S.S.

*Texas Association of
Cactus & Succulent
Societies*

in
Weslaco, Tx.
at Best Western
PALM AIRE MOTOR INN



HOLIDAY PLANT CARE

Five tips to help keep your festive plants in colorful bloom for weeks

During the holidays many of you will receive seasonal flowering plants as gifts. They can be just the right touch for table centerpieces, entry hallways and mantel decorations. Given proper care, plants such as poinsettia, ornamental pepper, Christmas cactus, cyclamen and Jerusalem cherry can last all through the holidays. Here are tips from the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Georgia that will help you keep your gift plants healthy, fresh and blooming.

* **PROVIDE BRIGHT, INDIRECT LIGHT.** Plants need light to bloom, but direct sun may wilt flowers. Give plants a quarter turn each week to keep them from leaning toward the source of light.

* **GIVE THE PLANT COOL TEMPERATURES.** To prolong bright colors, keep flowering plants in cool places. Most plants will do well in temperatures of 65 to 75 F during the day and 50 to 60 F at night. Don't put them near a heater, radiator or stove - or next to a fireplace.

* **KEEP PLANTS OUT OF DRAFTS.** Although flowering plants prefer cooler temperatures, cold drafts from an open window can harm them. Don't place them up against a windowpane either; moisture can condense on cold glass and freeze leaves to the pane.

* **KEEP SOIL MOIST BUT NOT SOGGY.** Flowering plants and those with lots of foliage generally require more frequent watering. When the soil feels dry, water to a depth of 1/2" to 1". Overwatering can cause roots to rot, but drought for long periods can be equally damaging. Always water until the water runs out the drainage holes in side or bottom of pot; empty excess water from pot saucer. If the plant is wrapped in decorative foil, either remove it or check to make sure the pot can drain.

* **REMOVE FADED BLOOMS.** As soon as a flower loses color and vibrancy, pinch or cut it off. This not only keeps the plant attractive, but it also prevents the plant from setting seed. A plant that sets seed will not be encouraged to continue blooming.

Keep in mind that holiday and gift plants are grown in greenhouses under the most favorable conditions, conditions that are hard to duplicate at home. With a little extra attention, however, you should be able to enjoy your blooming plants for weeks.

They say that sooner or later, people begin to resemble their pets!

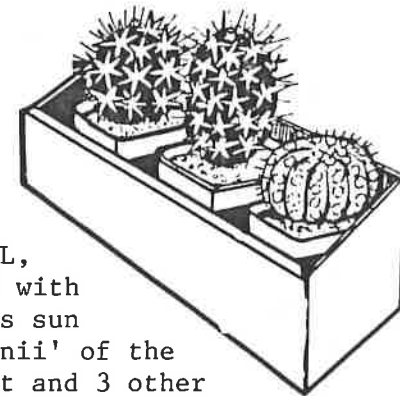


Drawing by Karen Holley.

FOLLOW-UPS AND CREDITS

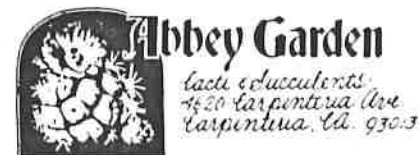
The Goethe quote on the cover and the inside cover message are from holiday cards.

COVER DRAWING of *Gymnocalycium multiflorum* is by Carla Wolters, who also wrote an accompanying article for the BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL, Sept. 1987. *G. multiflorum* may one day be joined with *G. monvillei*. It comes from S. America and enjoys sun and a cool winter. "Buining called it the 'grusonii' of the South American continent."... Prints of this plant and 3 other Gymnos are available from Carla Wolters, Van Horneplein 1, NL-6019 BW Wessem Netherlands. Listed price may have changed due to the variable dollar.



BELOW IS MORE INFORMATION ON THE SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE IN TEXAS.

THIS IS THE ROOM RATE SCHEDULE REFERRED TO IN THE CENTER SECTION OF THIS NEWSLETTER BY MARY JO GUSSETT.



ROOM RATE SCHEDULE*

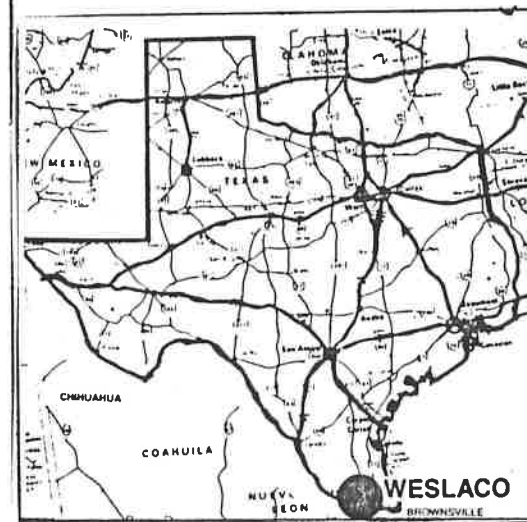
GROUND FLOOR..		
-KING BED..	\$44.00 - \$50.00	POOLSIDE
-QUEEN BEDS..	\$42.00	DOWN & OUT
-KING BED...	\$46.00	DOWN & OUT
SECOND FLOOR:		
-QUEEN BEDS..	\$40.00	POOLSIDE
-QUEEN BEDS..	\$38.00	OUTSIDE

SUITE TYPE ROOMS AVAILABLE



415 S. INTERNATIONAL BLVD.
WESLACO, TEXAS 78596
(512) 969-2411

RESERVATIONS: TEXAS (800) 248-6511
NATIONAL (800) 528-1234



DRAWINGS ON THIS PAGE, THE NEXT PAGE, AND THE HOLIDAY PARTY PAGE ARE FROM A 1984 ABBEY GARDEN GIFT CATALOG, with permission.

Several attempts to find the name of the artist failed.

Abbey Garden's address is above. They are a retail & catalog nursery.

Call for hours:
(805) 684-5112.

HOLIDAY PLANT ARTICLE on the preceding page is from the Wisconsin C & S Club Newsletter, 12/87.

IN THE INTERESTS OF ACCURACY, Arabella the Yucca, featured in the October newsletter, is actually Arabella, the Beaucarnea. Sorry Arabella!

OTHER HOLIDAY DRAWINGS not credited elsewhere are mostly from various sources and are presumed to be copyright-free. They are not credited in the various newsletters I found them in. ed.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

(Note: I haven't received word yet from Marge as to other new members besides the following who have joined, but if you are left out, please accept my apology, and will try to make any corrections in the January N.L. ed.)

Barbara Allen
8225 Erskine Green
Buena Park, CA 90621
(714) 522-0886

Tambra & Woody Minnich
9607 Ave. S - 12
Littlerock
CA 93543
(805) 944-2784

Kyle Elliott
206 Romaine Dr.
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Michon Witters
318 Bridge Place
West Sacramento
CA 95691



JANUARY NEWSLETTER: If you have contributions for the newsletter, I would love to receive them, preferably ready for typing. As time is a problem for me, I sometimes have to put off "abstracting" long articles no matter how interesting. Please send to Carol Wujcik, 10860 El Mar Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708. THANKS! (A photo page insert may be ready next mo. I hope!)

FROM THE DEC. 1987 CACTUS DIGEST, BETTY CORDES, EDITOR, (St.Louis, Mo.), COMES THE FOLLOWING POEM:

YUCCA CANDLES

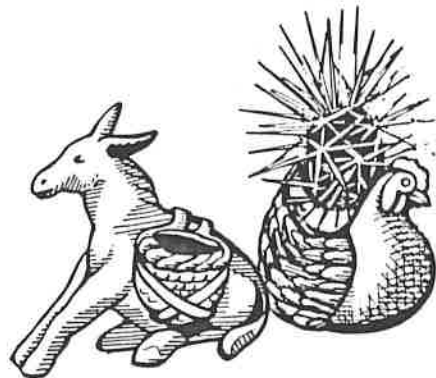
There is gold in every sunset,
There's a whisper in the breeze.
Quiet night birds are calling
As they nestle in the trees.

Yucca candles, snow white candles
Pointing to the sky,
Lending color to the desert
With a glow to magnify.

Stately pines are swaying
Making music soft and still.
As silence spreads her mantle
Over crag and over hill.

There is a hush at every twilight
With sunset curtains drawn.
While the glow of yucca candles
Awaits the light of dawn.

Sister M.Denise Shea



FELIZ NAVIDAD

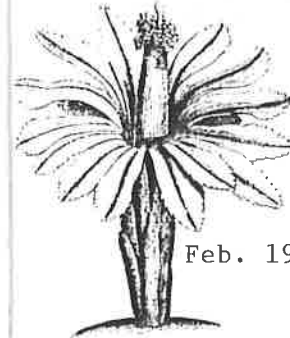
FELICIDADES

VAYA CON DIOS

Dec. 27, Sunday at 1:00 PM OUR HOLIDAY PARTY! With friends, gift plants for early renewers, holiday feast, decorations, voluntary gift exchange, and mystery program! BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!

Jan. 24, Sunday at 1:00 PM, OUR REGULAR MEETING.

Jan. 31, Sunday at 1:00 PM, BOARD MEETING.



The Dec. Holiday Party and the Jan. regular meeting will be at the Library Community Room, 5020 Clark Ave., in Lakewood, BUT WE NEED A HOST OR HOSTESS FOR OUR BOARD MEETING, OR SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHERE TO HOLD IT.

Feb. 19, 20 & 21, SOUTHWEST SUCCULENT CONFERENCE in Texas, for those of you who are free to travel. More info. inside this newsletter.

The reprint below comes from the Dec. 1987 Sunset Society's Slightly Skinny Sheet. LGM may not be all that easy to obtain, but Rowena Thompson may be able to sell you some of her supply. Park Nursery in Long Beach probably carries it as well as the LGM Leaf Mold, which I rather like. ed.

IDEAL SOIL MIX: In the Garden magazine of the L. A. Times of October 18, the following appeared:

Q: Last year I tried making my own soil mix for succulents and cactus, with disappointing results. It dries out quickly, stays very loose and is somewhat water repellent. Can you suggest a good formula?

A: Cactus collectors Seymour Linden and Henry Varney use this mix for their several thousand succulents, many of which are quite rare and finicky: four parts fine pumice, three parts LGM planter mix, one part decomposed granite or washed builders' sand. They swear by the pumice, which they buy at Orange County Farm Supply, 1826 W. Chapman Ave., Orange (714) 633-8682. LGM, a brand name fairly common throughout Southern California, makes for a potting mix that is "dry even when it is soaking wet." Linden and Varney must water fairly often and suggest that less pumice and more sand or decomposed granite will make a mix that needs watering less often.

The author, Robert Smaus, apparently considered Sunset's Seymour and Henry to be top reference sources in Los Angeles.

"All I want for Christmas is

...12 Uebellmannias,
11 new club members,
10 days of winter,
9 dollar gas bills,
8 mamms-a-milking,
7 blooming discos,
6 saguaros branching,
5 golden barrels !
4 gardeners,
3 hen and chicks,
2 of every plant,
and a cactus wren in a boojum tree!!!

*Greetings
and
Best Wishes*

from Between the Spines 12/81

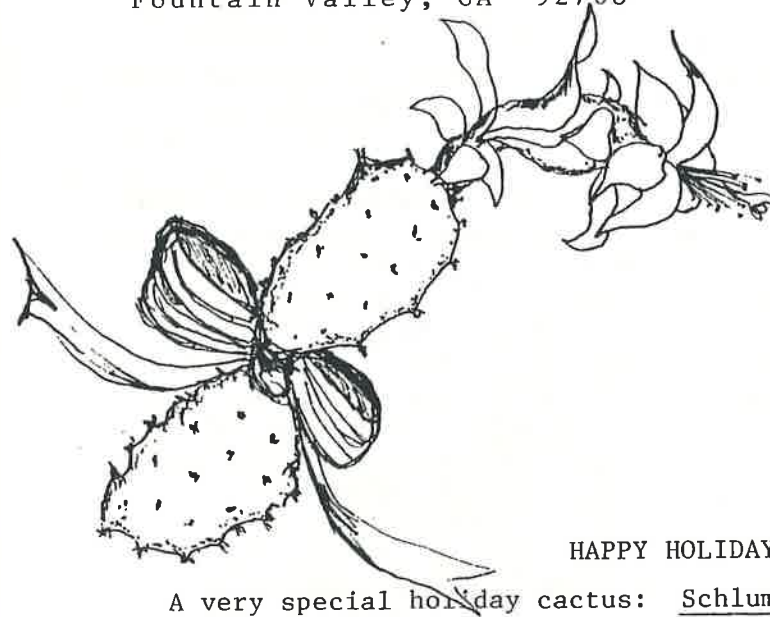
Above lyrics are reprinted from the Wisconsin C & S Club Newsletter, 12/87, Pat Laursen, editor; and the drawing is from the Sunset Succulent Society's Slightly Skinny Sheet, 12/87, Judy Campbell, editor.

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB

NEWSLETTER: The Cactus Companion

10860 El Mar Avenue

Fountain Valley, CA 92708



FIRST CLASS
FIRST CLASS

HAPPY HOLIDAYS ROADRUNNERS!

A very special holiday cactus: Schlumbergera (Zygocactus) opuntoides.