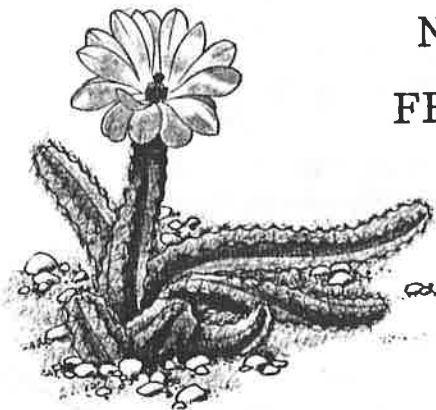


THE CACTUS COMPANION

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1988



Echinocereus pentalophus

5020 Clark Ave. Lakewood - Iacoboni Library
MEETING--FEBRUARY 28, SUNDAY, 1:00 PM

PROGRAM: Woody Minnich will present his program on ECHINOCEREUS. The "Hedgehogs" are not only attractive cacti because of spination, but have some of the most beautiful flowers in the plant world. Many species are recommended for the cactus

grower and hobbyist. Others are a little more temperamental. Some species can be seen in our local deserts. Come learn about these beautiful cacti.

REFRESHMENTS: Ginger Brown and Brian Eitelman will be joining Kathi Reyes bringing refreshments. Others are welcome to bring something as well. Thank you!

PLANT OF THE MONTH: Melocactus & Gasteria, Beginners & Advanced.
Bring representatives of both species to share.

BRAGGING TABLE: Bring your blooming Aloes and Crassulaceae, bring your early cactus bloomers, bring whatever is looking good or whatever puzzles you to share.

SALES: We hope Woody and Tandra will be bringing plants to sell, plus members are welcome to sell plants too! (25% to the Club - mark your prices accordingly!) INTER-CITY T-SHIRTS WITH SHOW LOGO - \$5!

DOOR PRIZE, END-OF-MEETING PRIZES, BIRTHDAY PLANTS - YES!

BUSINESS: Our Dominguez Cactus Garden has sustained frost, wind, and construction damage. We'll have work party/barbeques one Sat. a month so we'll need to choose between March 5 & March 19, and between April 9 & 30. Also, Tuesday afternoons is the regular work day - and when days get longer, Ted hopes a few Roadrunners will find it therapeutic to relax & do a little weeding and watering, with a Tues. Barbeque 1 Tues. a month too.

MINUTES of the board meeting and the Jan. meeting are included in this newsletter for members of the LBCC.

INTER-CITY SHOW MEETING and more meeting information on the next page →

MEETING INFORMATION continued.

INTER-CITY SHOW MEETING for committee members and others interested in participating in planning for the 1988 show will be held following the regular Long Beach Cactus Club meeting. Location is the home of Rowena Thompson.

THANK YOU to the Goewert's for hosting our Board Meeting last month. This was SuperBowl day so the Goewert's and several others who like football went beyond the call of duty to attend! Thank you to all. Much was accomplished.

More on San. Gab. Bus trip to
FIELD TRIPS: Please see next page. San Diego Show next month.

LIBRARY: Reminder! Please bring extra books any subject, hard bound or not, which you would like to donate to the Club. The Club uses the revenue from this to help "pay its rent". Also, don't forget we have a fine library to help you learn about the plants we love. Make your Librarian smile, donate or check out a book.



REFRESHMENTS SIGN-UP: We need more people to add their names to our refreshments list. So far, the following good, noble people have signed up! March - Birthday for LBCC Month - everybody brings refreshments! In April there will be special events rather than a regular meeting. But in May, Virginia Martin and the Thoerners have kindly signed up. In June Kathi Reyes will join Chairman Reyes, plus ??????. In July nobody has yet signed. In Sept. Audrey Tucker & ??????. In October Kathi & Laverne Pitzer will anchor our Auction, and in Nov. ?????? ! We need more people! Actually, two people per month probably isn't enough.

1988 OFFICERS et. al.:

President: Rowena Thompson (213) 835-0393
Vice Pres. - Kathi Reyes (213) 591-7330
Secretary - Terry Goewert (714) 962-3839
Treasurer - Jim Hanna (213) 920-3046

Affiliate Rep. - Lillian True (714) 837-4494
Bragging Table - Bill Hagblom (714) 538-6186
Birthday Plants- Rose Wey (213) 869-8024
Garden Curator - Ted Taylor (213) 569-3368
Librarian - Darryl Tucker (213) 421-8175
Programs - Audrey Tucker " " "
Refreshments - Kathi Reyes (213) 591-7330
Show Chairman - Larry Grammer (213) 599-0856
Sunshine - Laverne Pitzer (213) 429-3271
To the above and those chairpersons we don't have room to list, THANK YOU!

Dues: Regular membership is \$8, senior membership is \$5, and each same home membership is \$1.50. Please contact your membership chairmen: Marge Snyder 199009-308 Laurel Park Rd., Dominguez Hills, CA 90220, or Terry Dew, 5328 Carita, Long Beach CA 90808.

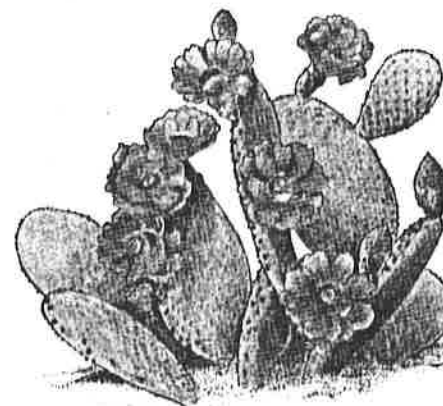
* * * * *

Newsletter: Carol Wujcik (714) 963-3146, 10860 El Mar Ave., Fountain Valley, CA 92708.

ROADRUNNERS ON THE ROAD

Do you have spring fever? Do you feel the call of the desert? This is the time of year to go. The problem of course is time itself - finding enough of it. But from now through May, beginning with the most southern areas and then Death Valley and then the high desert regions - you should find good weather and wonderful vistas and bloom and of course xerophytes & cactus & succulents. California deserts include the drier, hotter Sonoran (which itself includes the Colorado and small Yuha Deserts) - and the Mojave Desert - relatively cool and high. For information on deserts to visit close to us (relatively) see next page.

THEN IN APRIL, THE LBCC WILL VEHICLE-CARAVAN TO THE EAST MOJAVE DESERT: April 23 & 24.



Opuntia basilaris

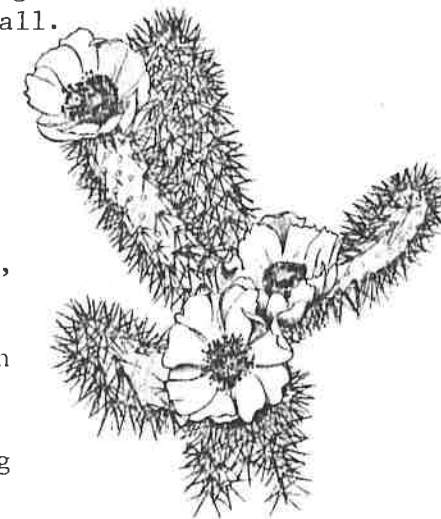


CALIFORNIA DESERT

This will be a weekend outing with Larry Grammer as our guide (trail guide & wagon master). It will be a camp out - we will be far from any motels or McDonalds. The general area we will visit will show us nature at its best - fine plants and wonderful rocks and vistas and landscapes. We will travel on dirt roads kept up by mining companies so 2 wheel drive should be ok. However, since problems can occur, the Club can't promise the roads or anything else will go perfectly. Life is full of surprises, hence the disclaimer! We go at our own risk, but so do we everyday. We will be in a group after all.

Above is the BeaverTail Opuntia, and to the right the TeddyBear Cholla, who's anything but. About it Barry Lopez (National Geographic Jan.'87) writes: "cholla cactus that snares afternoon sunlight and wears it like a cloak..." He also writes about the desert, "This thorny land, so tough to the eye and foot, has a tender side. Abraded by man its future is not assured."

CREDITS: Cactus drawings are by Stefan Bernath from the CACTUS COLORING BOOK, Dover Pictorial Archives. Echinocereus bud is by Bonnie Moro for CSIE, #5, 1978. Dejected Librarian drawing is of unknown origin. Other credits are with drawings, etc.

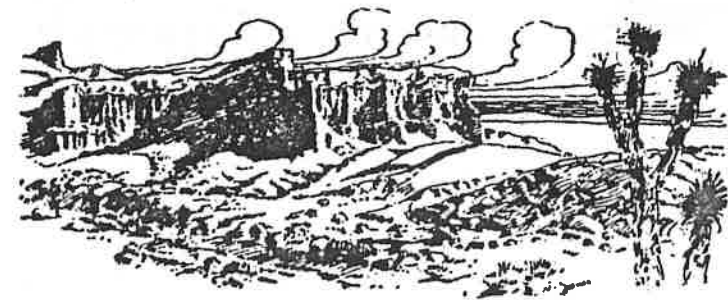


Opuntia bigelovii

THIS IS THE TIME TO VISIT THE LOW DESERT

The next several months may be a good time to visit lower elevation desert areas several hours drive from us. You can make a 1 day trip, if time is a problem, though it will be a long day. Check out the weather ahead of time, and if you plan to go on non-paved roads in Anza-Borrego or Joshua Tree, call ahead to check on their condition. The ground can be soft at this time of year. Upper desert regions - like the upper parts of Joshua Tree - are perhaps most beautiful in April and May. The following low desert regions might make good trips:

1. Palm Springs - Palm Desert Area: Moorten's "Desertland" Botanical Garden & Nursery in Palm Springs and The Living Desert in Palm Desert (down 111). This would make 1 full day.
2. The 10 which leads to the Palm Springs area will also take you past the lower entrance to Joshua Tree. Just a little way in you will pass a ranger's station where you can purchase maps etc.



2. continued. A little farther into Joshua Tree will bring you to a Cactus Garden area where *Opuntia bigelovii* runs riot. Continue on & you will climb into the high desert & Joshua Tree country. Joshua Tree actually encompasses two great desert regions.

3. Anza-Borrego State Park is a wonderful place at this time of year. Now is the time to visit the more southern regions, including the Elephant Tree Trail. At the northern part of the trail you can continue on your own to visit more trees, but be sure to use desert safety practices. Other

areas such as Bisnaga Wash are wonderful just now. These washes and trails involve upward grades for long distances. For those who wish to take it easy, just stay near your car. If you are new to the desert, take it easy until you know your stamina levels.

4. Death Valley is supposed to be fine early in the year. I hope to find out. I'm still a beginner!

Carol

Rattling the Snakebite Victim

L.A. TIMES 1/23/88

It seems that the chances of getting bitten by a rattlesnake have more to do with a person's carelessness or stupidity than just rolling snake eyes. Thanks to a study at the USC Medical Center, there now is something of a profile of the average snakebite victim.

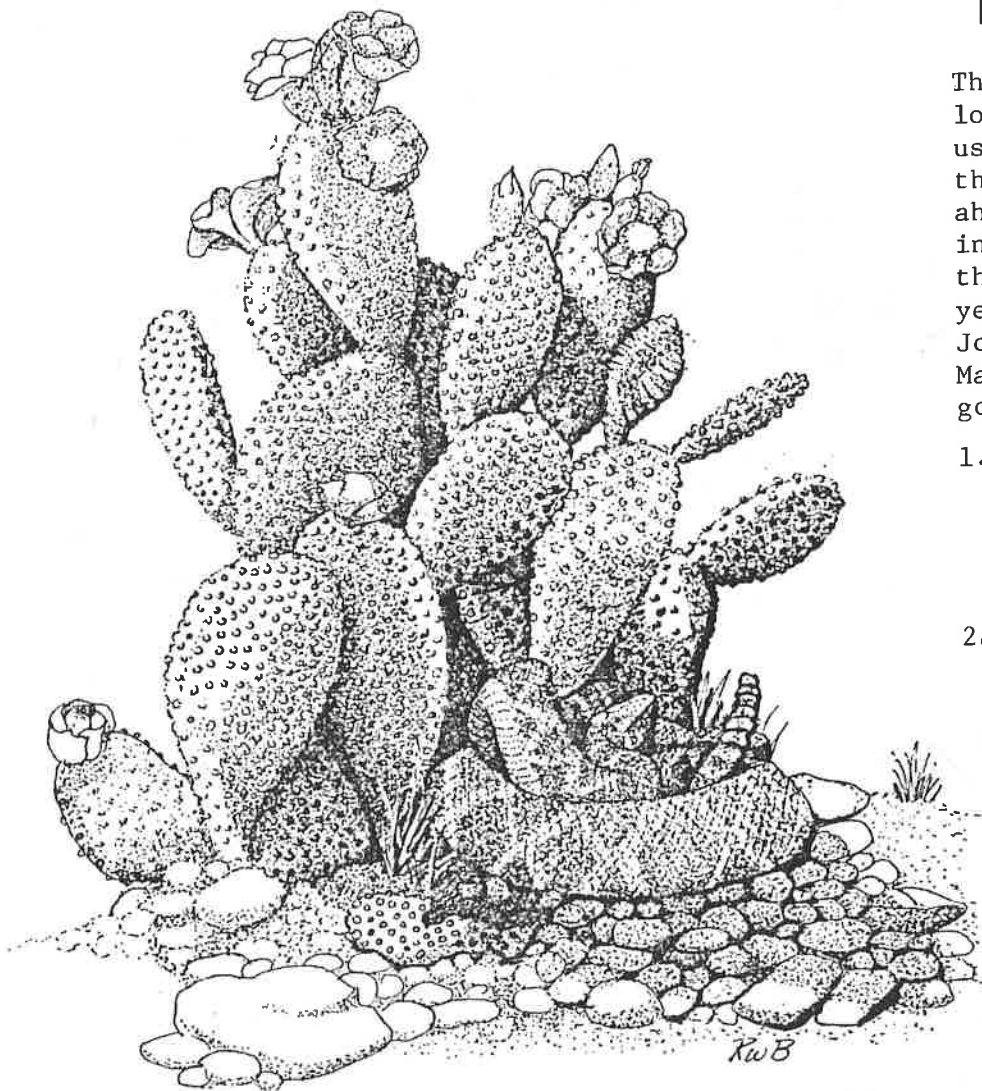
The results of the study by Dr. Willis Wingert have been published in the *Western Journal of Medicine* in an article that was co-authored by Linda Chan. The pair analyzed 227 cases of snakebite at the hospital over the past 11 years and found that only 44% of the cases were considered to be accidental. More than 50% of the snakebites resulted from the victim's intentional handling of the snake, and 28% of the victims were intoxicated, the article said. Male victims outnumbered females nine to one.

"Snakebites usually occur in young men in their third decade of life who have a blood-alcohol con-

centration of more than 0.10%," Wingert said. That is the level at which a California motorist is presumed to be driving while intoxicated.

Many of the victims were bitten while trying to feed snakes, Wingert said, adding, "Another thing they'll do is try to catch a snake in the wild by grabbing it by the tail, which is a disaster. The snakes whip around and bite them on the hand or fingers." Only one of the 227 victims died, and he was an 80-year-old who suffered a heart attack after arriving at the hospital.

This does not mean that one has to pity the poor rattlers. They can be a danger to the unwary. On the whole, however, rattlesnakes are shy creatures that strike only when threatened, and often only after they have given warning. In that sense they may be considerably less dangerous than the person with a blood-alcohol content of more than 0.10% who is behind the wheel of a motor vehicle.



Above drawing from the 1981 (#7) CSIE shows an *Opuntia* shading a rattlesnake. The artist is Bill Barnett.

PLEASE SEE THE ENCLOSED FLYER FOR PARK PHONE NUMBERS AND RUDIMENTARY MAPS. IF YOU DON'T GET THEM AHEAD OF TIME, PICK UP DETAILED MAPS AT PARK HEADQUARTERS OR VISITOR'S CENTERS. AS WITH ANY TRIP, LET SOMEONE AT HOME KNOW OF YOUR ITINERARY.

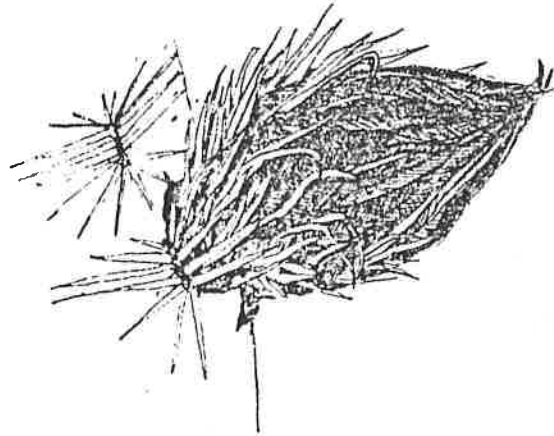
WE HOPE THIS YEAR FOR A FINE FLOWERING SEASON IN THE DESERT!!! WILL YOU SEE IT?!

REPORT FROM THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

HUNTINGTON DESERT GARDEN: The Aloes are at their blooming peak - drawing bees and birds - and admiring crowds. The Crassulaceae and other winter bloomers are also putting on a show. Regretably the desert garden this year has sustained some frost and wind damage, but most affected plants will survive. They will be pruned later this month (in many cases) after danger of further frost is over. In the other gardens, many flowering trees and shrubs are putting on a show - including the Camellias.

The Huntington is open from 1:00 to 4:30 Tuesday through Sunday (Sunday visitors from LA County need to make reservations by calling (818) 405-2141. The address is 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108. Closed Monday.

MADAGASCAR: Joe Clements is renovating and completing desert garden bed 54, the Madagascar Succulents. Boulders are being moved into place, and much has been done. Final work, including labeling of some plants, is still in progress.



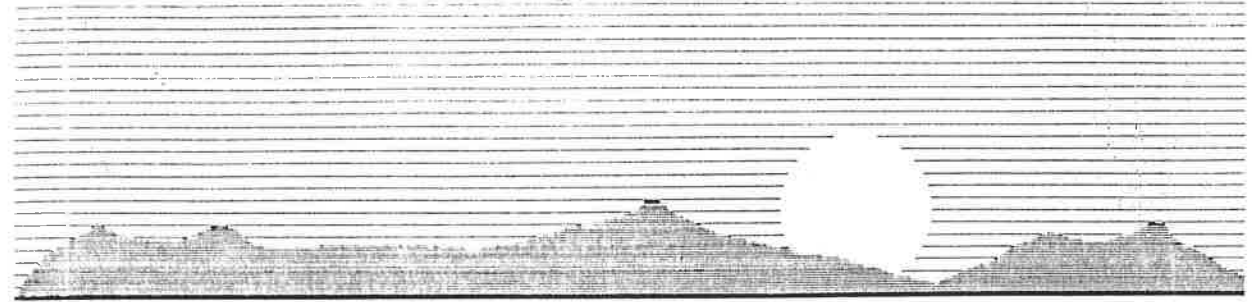
Echinocereus flower bud

x2
20-4-78

Wine-rose with white spines,
emerging in typical Echinocereus
fashion through a crack in the
skin of the plant, in this case
next to an areole.

WANTED: A FEW GOOD VOLUNTEERS!

The HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL BUNCH needs volunteers who can donate time and talent on a regular basis. Dedicated repotters and those who would like to work with the plants should contact John Trager (818) 405-2163 or Joe Clements (leave message at 405-2160). Those wishing to volunteer for the other gardens, ie. Palms, should also leave a message at 405-2160 for the Curators of those gardens. (The Curators spend much of their time in their gardens and away from office phones!) Anyone interested in the inventorying and surveying of plants and their records and the associated paperwork should contact Carol Wujcik at 405-2162. Volunteering is a way to help and learn at the same time. TIME IS THE KEY. IF YOU HAVE IT, LET US HEAR FROM YOU!



DESERT FACETS

The quivering yellow heat is pressing down
To brand with summer's mark her heaving wastes.
Each saber-pointed bush...each cactus armed
With daggers edged in saffron candle-flame
Is smothering beneath a gray dust quilt;
And to her fevered bosom, tightly clutched
Is silence, fierce as new-born mother love.

No sun, however dominant, can stay;
The night is sweeter for a bitter day.

So now, the fireball inches toward the night,
And sunburnt, all surrenders to the dusk,
A dusk which waves a cooling plumage fan
Tipped with pink quartz and streaks of amethyst;
And here and there a Joshua's needle point
Pierces through the remnants of a dying day.
A lizard scuttles from his purple dark
And stars sing of a blue and silver night.

A fiend, her day...her night, a quiet friend,
A land of no beginning...and no end.

Ruby Bolton

The above poem was contributed by Terry Dew, who wrote: "My Grandmother will be ninety on February 27th. Among her endless talents as a true "Renaissance woman," she is an award-winning poet. "Desert Facets" was awarded a fifth place in the national "Great American Poetry Contest" in April 1987. Whether describing the desert's pink quartz and streaks of amethyst with oil paint or verse, Grandmother freely shares her love of the desert's beauty. I hope you enjoy the poem.

Terry Dew

CALENDAR CALENDAR CALENDAR CALENDAR CALENDAR calendar

- Feb. 28, Sun. - LBCC REGULAR MEETING at 1:00 PM at the Library, featuring Woody Minnich and ECHINOCEREUS. Plant of Month: Melocactus and Gasteria. Inter-City Show Meeting for Show Committee of all 3 Clubs plus interested members at Rowena Thompson's following the LBCC meeting.
- March 5, Sat. - UCI Arboretum Open House, 10 - 2PM, Information in last month's newsletter except for directions. Take the 405 to Jamboree, turn right towards the ocean. Turn left onto Campus Drive, go about 300 feet and turn right again. UCI = University of Calif. Irvine. Aloes should be bloom'g.
- March 27, Sun.- REGULAR LBCC MEETING.
- April 16 & 17 - ZOO PLANT SALE WITH LBCC PARTICIPATING. If you wish to sell plants, contact Jim Hanna, our Treasurer, 25% to Club.
- April 23 & 24 - LBCC FIELD TRIP to the East Mojave. Please see inside these pages.
- April 30, May 1 - Sunset Show in Culver City, Sacramento Show, & also the Monterey Bay Area C & S Show.
- May 14 & 15 - Orange Cty. C & S Show
- May 15 - Huntington Botanical Garden Sale
- June 4 & 5 - San Diego C & S Soc. Show & Sale. - San Gabriel Soc. Field Trip on the 5th. Roadrunners may go - price to be announced

LBCC CACTUS COMPANION
10860 El Mar Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708



FIRST CLASS



FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

Carol & Joe Wujcik
10860 El Mar Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708



Echinocereus triglochidiatus Echinocereus: Hedgehogs and Claret Cups?

MOORTEN'S "Desertland" BOTANICAL GARDEN®

Privately owned

Garden Weddings and Receptions

A Living Museum

FOUNDED 1938

Celebrating our 45th Year

The Garden Residence
Estate of Patricia and The
Late "Cactus Slim" Moorten
and son Clark

OVER 2,000 VARIETIES

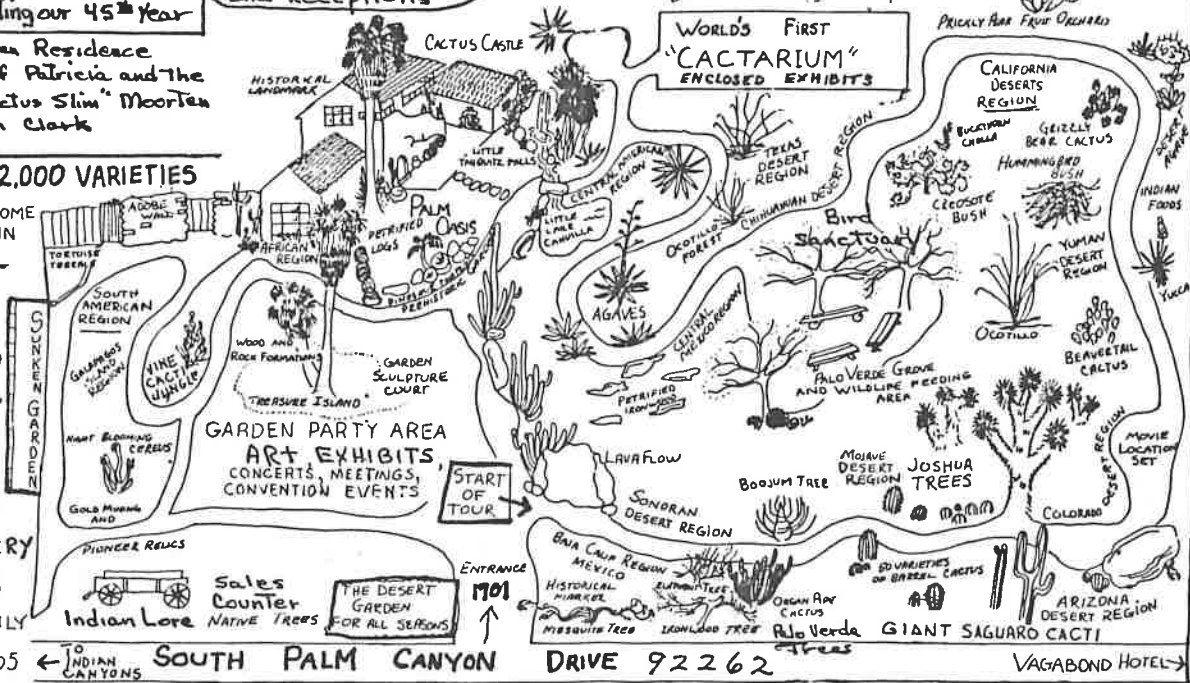
ALWAYS SOME
PLANTS IN
BLOOM

ALOE
VERA
PLANTS

FUN
FOR
EVERYONE

DESERT
PLANTS
NURSERY
ALL
SIZES

OPEN DAILY
9-5
327-6555



PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
SOUTH 0021

OFFICIAL
HOST

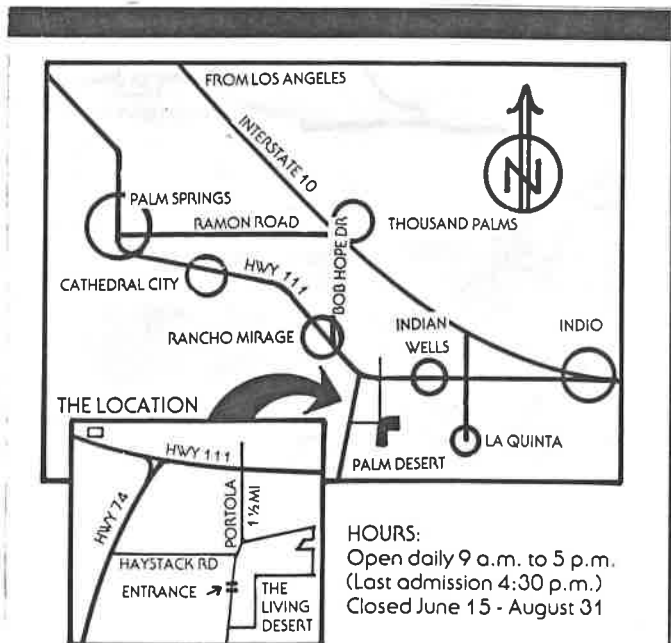
DISCOVER
AMERICA

Moorten's Desertland Botanical Garden
619-327-6555

Palm Springs

The Living Desert &
Palm Desert

Wildflower Hotline
24 hours / day March-May
Recording.
818-768-3533



HOURS:
Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Last admission 4:30 p.m.)
Closed June 15 - August 31

INFORMATION:
(619) 346-5694

LOCATION: The Living Desert, just minutes away from any point in the Coachella Valley, is located 1 1/2 miles south of Highway 111 at 47-900 Portola Avenue in Palm Desert, California.

ADMISSION: Adults, \$3; children 3-15, \$1; 2 and under, free (children must be accompanied by an adult). Senior citizens, \$2.00 on Tuesdays. Living Desert members, free. Free parking. All prices and hours subject to change without notice.

TOURS: Free tours may be arranged for educational and youth groups by calling the education office. Adult group services, including guided tours, live animal programs and slide shows, are available by special arrangement for groups of 15 or more. Call the tour office for information and reservations.

FOR YOUR COMFORT: All indoor exhibits in cooled buildings. Water fountains and shade ramadas located throughout the grounds. Gift shop, soft drinks and shaded picnic areas. Accessible to handicapped. Special facilities available for private functions.

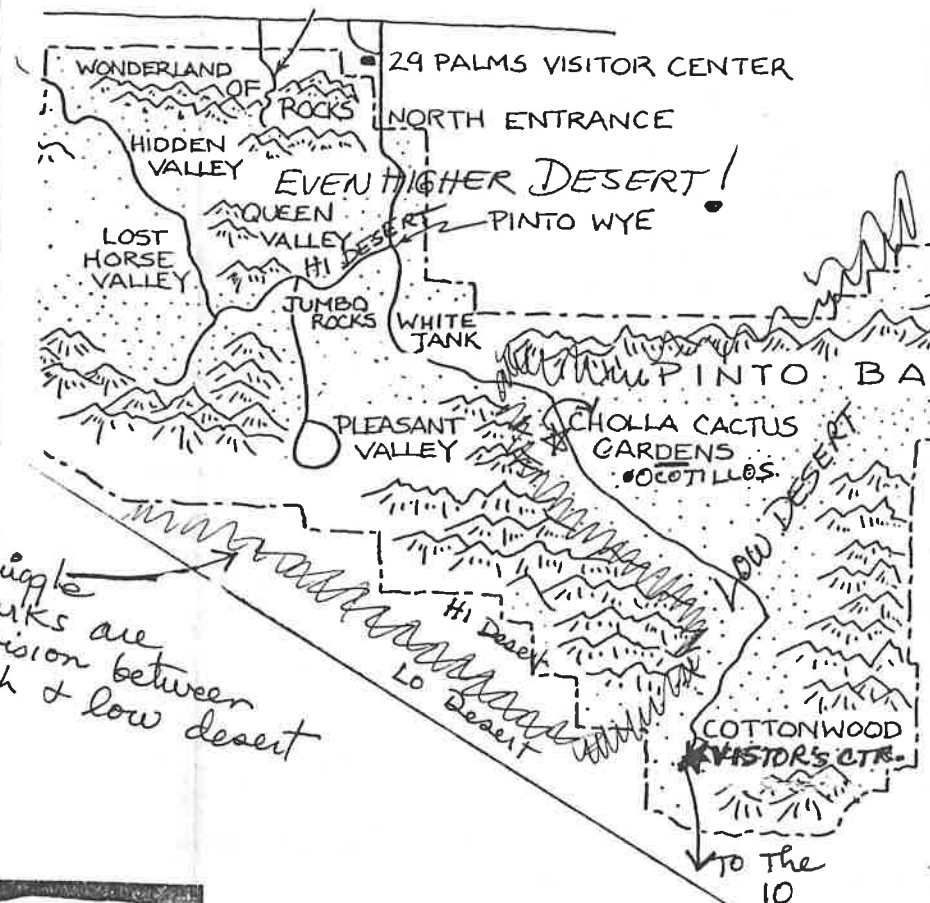
FOOD SERVICE AVAILABLE ON WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS.
SORRY, NO PETS.

Joshua Tree →

(619) 367-7511

"Take away
Nothing but
Photos and
Memories -"

squiggle
marks are
division between
high & low desert

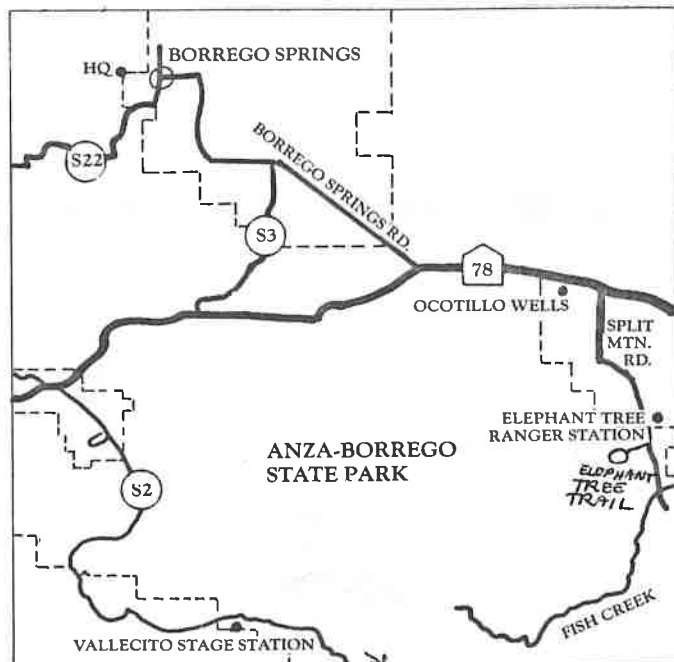


FROM ANZA-BORREGO
PARK BROCHURE -

Desert Safety

Respect the desert, and you need not fear it. Keep these points in mind:

- Know your physical limits in the heat and rugged desert terrain. Summer temperatures can reach 125°F.
- ALWAYS carry plenty of water . . . and drink it! It does you no good in your canteen.
- Don't hike alone - use the buddy system.
- Tell companions and park headquarters of your trip plans . . . and be out on time, or rangers will be searching for you.
- Use maps. Detailed topographical maps of the entire park are available at the Visitor Center.
- Keep your vehicle stocked with extra water, shovel, tools, flares, and blankets.
- If your vehicle breaks down, stay with it! It's much easier to find a vehicle than a wandering person.
- Wear sturdy footwear and a hat, and use sun protection.
- Should you find yourself in trouble, don't panic. If you've followed the above precautions, help will soon be on the way.



↑ ANZA-BORREGO
BISNAGA WASH
IS ON S.2
(619) 767-5311

January 24, 1988

MINUTES OF THE LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB

The meeting was called to order by President Rowena Thompson at 1:05 PM. Guests introduced and promptness prizes given out. Bragging plants were shown and questions answered.

Good slide presentation on Dudleyeas by Kei Nakai of Hawthorne Nursery.

Plant of month winners announced:

OPEN	NOVICE
1st Rowena Thompson	-----
2nd Bill Hagblom & Jaques	-----
De Tisne	-----
3rd Jaques De Tisne	-----

(NEOCITLINTIA)
SUCCULENT
(STUDLEYAS)

1st Jim Hanna	Laverne Pitzer
2nd Rowena Thompson	-----
3rd Jaques De Tisne	-----

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Katie Reyes asked members to sign up for monthly refreshments, sheet circulated.

Barbara Allen told about UCI Arboretum repotting Haworthias & need to sell some because of no room. A motion by Bill Hagblom to remove the percentage that goes to club for Haworthias sold by Barbara Allen. Seconded by Jim Hanna. Motion carried.

Bill Hagblom announced that a trip to San Diego Cactus Club show on June 5 is planned. Asked if members would likd to go with San Gabriel Club. Cost \$10.00.

Darryl Tucker named the new books in the library. Have spent \$1000.00 so far on books, and \$300.00 to spend. Asked about what kind of books to buy.

April 16-17--Plant sale at LA Zoo. See Jim Hanna if want to sell plants.

Any volunteers for hosting show committee meeting?

Board Meeting on Sunday 31st at Goewerts.

End-of-meeting prize given away.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

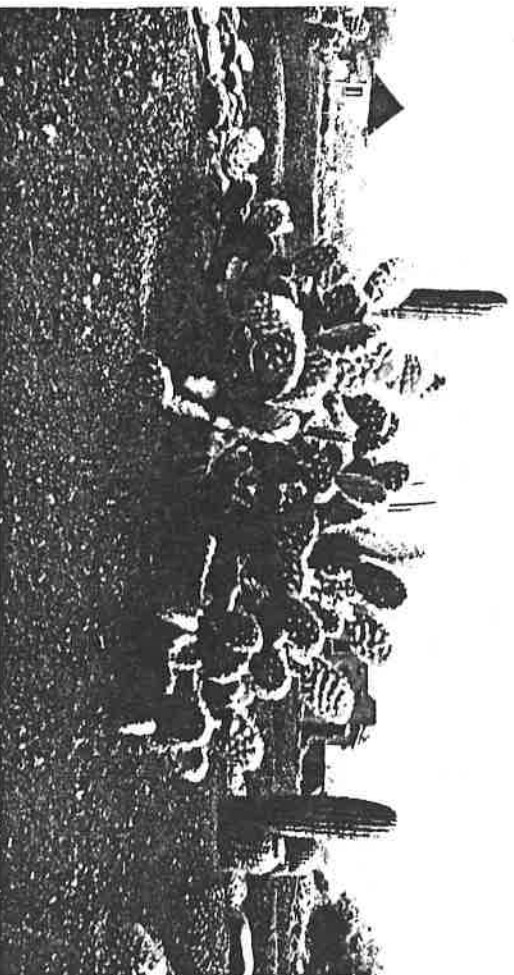
ACTING SECRETARY
Laverne Pitzer

SNOW COVE

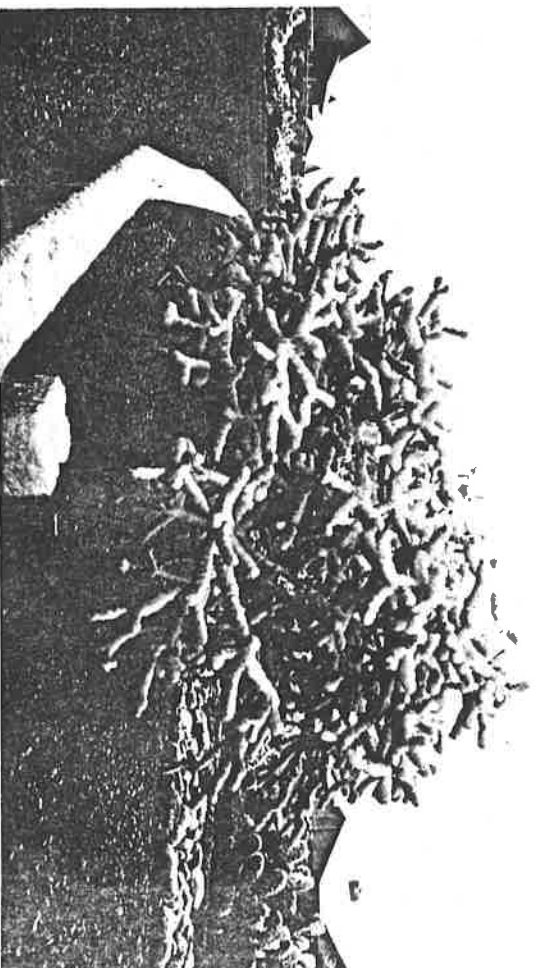
NOTICE: Knobe Reyes needs any photos or group pictures or any clippings etc. for the membership poster!!! Or drawings etc.!

These two photos of a snow-covered cactus garden in front of a home in Tucson, Arizona were loaned to us for the newsletter. Although it has been an unusually cold and windy winter, at least those of us in the Los Angeles area were spared snow! However those living at higher elevations near us, and those living in the high desert, like Woody & Tandra, see snow on the cactus.

Thank you to Kathi & Khobe Reyes for loaning us these photos.



As you can see in the photos, the ground is warm enough that the snow doesn't stick. Most succulents can take a fair amount of cold if acclimated, but not freezing, at least not for extended periods. Most are considered tender and require a minimally heated greenhouse. Heating a greenhouse costs money. As for the hardy plants, they use several adaptive devices to get through the cold, including shriveling so that the liquid within doesn't expand and burst cell walls with freezing.



1/31/88

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF THE LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB

The meeting was called to order by President Rowena Thompson at 1:40 PM.

The minutes of the 8/30/87 meeting were read by Terry Goewert.

The joint show committee meeting was discussed--types of foods, location. Audrey Tucker moved to have an afternoon Bar-B-Q at Rowena's. Bill seconded & motion carried. Date left open, but suggestions were: 1st. choice--March 5 or 6.

2nd. choice--Feb. 27.

Larry Grammer suggested providing dinner for any show participant coming from over 300 miles. All in attendance were in favor of this, with some limitations. Larry is to check with other show committee chairmen.

Bill Hagblom asked if the club would subsidize members wishing to go on the bus with the San Gabriel Cactus Club to the San Diego Cactus Show on Sunday, June 5. Audrey Tucker suggested carpooling to the show. A discussion followed & it was determined to not subsidize the trip. Carol Wujic will list the trip in the next club newsletter.

Carol Wujic suggested possibilities for a one day trip--Ansa Borrego or Palm Springs area. Larry Grammer suggested a weekend camping trip in the Mohave. Ted Turner suggested a day trip to the Vista area nurseries(probably April). Rowena suggested April 23-24 for the camping trip.

The time for the next auction was discussed. October was picked. Ask the Thoeners if we could use their place again. Audrey Tucker moved that the Club provide some food for the acution. Carol seconded. Motion carried. Members will supplement with finger foods.

Help for Jim Hanna at the auction was discussed. Larry Grammer suggested more auctioneers to help Jacques.

Larry mentioned getting information on the Inter-City Show T shirts.

Carol Wujic suggested getting a different restaurant for the Show banquet.

Rowena Thompson questioned the bylaws--that the nominations could be made in November at the same time that we are voting. Ted Turner will check this out.

Ted Turner reminded us of the CSSA program showing pictures of cactus on stamps.

The need to protect the table tops at the library was discussed. Rose & Laverne will bring in some covers.

Carol Wujic mentioned the Huntington Sale-May 15, selling varigated & monstrose plants. She also asked for feedback on possible changes in the newsletter. Should we shorten it to save money? What to do with honorary newsletters. She also brought up donating money to CSSA.

Rowena Thompson suggested starting up the Tues. evening Bar-B-Q at the adobe in warmer weather. Ted Turner suggested trying for a Saturday to get more participation.--Possibly aiming for the Saturday after the general meeting.

Audrey Tucker brought up the subject of pay for speakers. Laverne suggested \$50 for speakers other than members, Carol moved and Larry Grammer seconded. Audrey asked to amend the motion to \$50 across the board, except for speakers under special circumstances left to the discretion of the program chairman. Passed unanamously.

Daryl Tucker suggested the club subsidizing members going to the Huntington Symposium.

Carol Wujic noted that our December meeting falls on the 25th. Tentatively. it will be hosted by the Tuckers.

Board meetings this year: May 29--cancelled, July 31 at Lavern Pitzers, Oct. 30--open. We may have one board meeting at the adobe on one of the Saturdays there.

Larry Grammer called for constructive criticism on last years show schedule.

Carol Wujic suggested having a membership poster (with pictures) and a table set up at the show.

Laverne Pitzer suggested getting a history of the clubs involved and attending meetings of all garden show in the area to promote the show.

At 4:30 PM, Audrey Tucker moved to adjoured the meeting, Rowena Seconded.

Secretary Terry Goewert