

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB  
FABULOUS 1989 AUCTION NEWSLETTER

THE CACTUS COMPANION!

OCTOBER 1989

# AUCTION

WOODY MINNICH & VICTOR TURECEK! AUCTIONEERS!

- Time: 11 AM!
- Location: The Thoerners

LADIES & GENTLEMEN

PREPARE YOUR PLANTS  
AND WALLETS!



# Newsletter

# 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, Ted Taylor, and 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.

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**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR OFFICERS & HARDWORKING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN & MEMBERS!!!! THE SOCIETY COULD NOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU!!!!**

## EDITORIAL: VOTE!

This year CSSA members really do have a choice in the race for Vice President & Treasurer as well as Director (we vote for 3 Directors on the slate).

Perhaps the analogy of "fresh blood" isn't the analogy of choice in this Halloween month! But in the sense of new ideas & energy, in a willingness to work as well as lead, in the ability to fearlessly speak their minds, then keep in mind Woody Minnich (running for Vice President), Sharon Thoerner (running for Treasurer) and Duke Benadom (running for one of the Director positions). You know all these people, and the time to vote is almost at hand. Ballots should soon be out. (There is someone else you probably know who is running for office -- Susan Clements, Joe Clements' wife, but she is running unopposed).

I know all of these people want your support and your vote.

**CREDITS FOR DRAWINGS:** The wonderful cactus-crazed fellow on the cover & opposite page is by Dan Leavitt of the Washington Society's THE POINT, Ted Van Velzen, ed., 12 (12), with permission.

Halloween drawings on back page are from a current Orange Cty. Wheelman N.L.

*Carol*



# LBCC

TIME: 11 AM SUNDAY OCT. 15

THIS IS THE 3rd SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, NOT THE 4th.

LUNCH FIXINGS & SODA PROVIDED BY THE LBCC.

## SPECIAL EVENT

We'll be computerized again, so all bidders & sellers will be entered into the computer ahead of time. So...

**BIDDERS:** Sign in or let Sharon Thoerner know by 10:45 AM if you will be bidding. Those selling must also have a number -- it can be the same as last year but you must confirm this with Sharon.

**- SELLERS:** Sharon says that IF YOU ARE EVEN THINKING ABOUT AUCTIONING OFF ONE PLANT, YOU MUST LET HER KNOW.

MARK SALE PLANTS WITH YOUR # TO BE CREDITED WITH SALE.

Call Sharon at 213-866-1555

- **Location:** The Thoerners, 15549 Ryon Ave., Bellflower, California.  
**Parking:** Park in driveway only to load or unload. THEN PLEASE PARK ON STREET OPPOSITE HOUSE.

- **PLEASE BRING:**  
- Your own chair, umbrella for sun protection if needed.

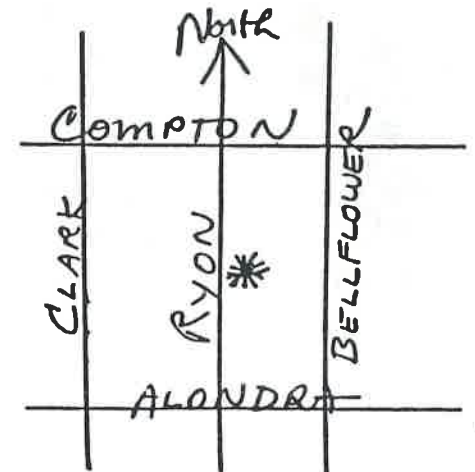
Please bring folding tables if you have these. Thanks!

- **Money matters:** Payment is by cash or check only. If you wish to auction plants, you must be a LBCC member, 75% to you, 25% to Club.

# AUCTION



MAP



## NEWS OF, FOR, AND ABOUT ROADRUNNERS:

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING: This would have been held the 5th Sunday in October, but apparently it has been canceled.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Last month our Club selected a nominating committee composed of Larry Grammer, Bill Hagblom, & Sharon Thoerner. These people will twist a few arms, and will report in October -- at the auction. The Nov. NL will publish this & at Nov. mtg. we vote.

REMEMBER THE DOMINGUEZ GARDEN! Contact Bill Hagblom if you can join the guardians of the garden watering, weeding, etc.! Bill's # is 714-538-6186. Another of our guardians is Ed Hennessey, who in the past has always brought fine succulents for auction.

ALSO JEFF MYERS -- a new member -- will be auctioning EUPHORBIA!

### IT'S TIME TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Zita Montenegro  
6227 Magnolia Ave.  
Whittier, CA 90601  
213-695-4363

Jeff Myers  
12229 Fremont  
Yucaipa, CA 92399  
714-797-8870

These people are all set for 1990!

Those of you who want to avoid the rush & renew now may do so by giving a check made out to LBCC to treasurer Jim Hanna -- BUT IF YOU DO SO AT THE AUCTION, MAKE SURE THE CHECK OR MONEY IS IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "DUES - 1990" SO AS NOT TO GET MIXED IN WITH BID MONEY.

The following comes to us via the Los Angeles Soc. newsletter, Walt Wegner, editor:

FROM BETTY GAY: Please donate the next pint of blood you give to Ed Gay at Granada Hills Hospital.

(We hasten to add that Ed is now out of the hospital and is back at the therapy nursing home. Keep those cards coming!)

Also, CACTUS RANCHITO will be having a plant sale on Oct. 14 -- all plants 1/2 off. On Oct. 21st all plants will be 1/3 off and on Oct. 28 they will be 1/4 off. (according to the notice in the LA newsletter).

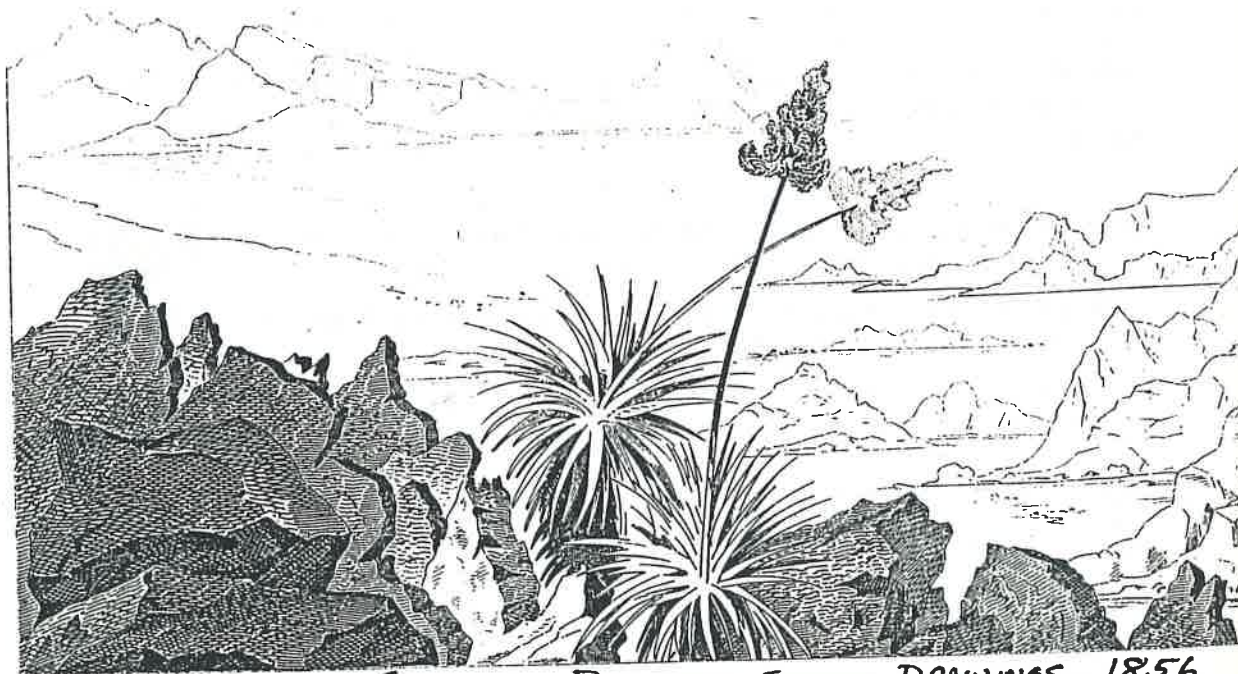
(Perhaps we will learn more at our Auction as to the latter two sale dates.)

IN MEMORIAM: FRANCES R. TEGELBERG

Frances Tegelberg passed away on October 1st. She was born in Iowa in 1900, and with Gil Tegelberg, Senior, was one of the early great growers in the Los Angeles area. Gil Tegelberg, Jr. has continued the tradition. For years their nursery has been in the high desert -- in the Mojave. Gil Sr. passed away in the early 1980's. Many cactophiles knew and loved this couple, and many came to pay their last respects to Frances Tegelberg at the funeral Wednesday October 4.

Everyone at the InterCity Show saw a newspaper picture of this beautiful lady. It was taken in 1936 -- with lots of cactus! -- in connection with the LA Club. The photo was on a scrapbook page mounted at the rear of the auditorium. Over 50 years later, cactophiles admired this lovely lady!

Write to Gil Tegelberg Jr. at Tegelberg Cactus Gardens, 8119 Camprock Rd., HCR Box 356, Lucerne Valley, CA 92356. The phone is 619-248-7482. (This is a cactus nursery open by appointment).



FROM THE BOUNDARY SURVEY DRAWINGS, 1856

D E S E R T

The following is from Ruth Kirk's DESERT, The American Southwest, The Naturalist's America series, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1973.

"The desert is a fragile land. It needs to be respected for what it is, rich and varied and beautiful in its own stark way. It must no longer be regarded as land that God never quite got around to finishing."...

"Man can overwhelm the desert, and because he can he does. We have scarcely seen this region as it truly is, yet we are willing to re-shape it."...

About dawn light: "...but that morning I looked closely and realized that what actually happens is a sudden flaring (of light) from one rock face to another. Entire cliffs receive the sun's rays and burst from shadow into brilliance. Desert light leaps rather than slides....Light that comes softly at dawn and blares stridently at noon. Light that penetrates the consciousness as in no other land except perhaps the high mountains and the Far North -- and there for the same reasons of a broad empty land set with angular lines."...

About the desert: "Perhaps...instead of trying to subdue it all and stamp its face with the false green and blue of limitless fields and lakes we should now see the desert for itself. For here is a land where you stand alone between the empty sweep of earth and sky. Your eyes behold bare rock and sand, and the vastness of the night heavens pricked with light; and you puzzle out the relationships between your own frail house of bone and flesh and the awesome impersonal immensity beyond. Somehow in regions that are more succoring these questions seem less urgent, even though man now knows that his future on this 'spaceship' planet depends on precisely this sort of awareness."...

"The desert asks not just your heart but your mind and a bit of your time, since to appreciate the harmonies of so hostile a land you must understand relationships that do not reveal themselves readily. The huge scale of the desert is easily grasped...but the intricacies and the small miracles withhold themselves -- the tiny cascade of sand grains as a lizard bolts for safety, the royal purple spots at the base of each petal of a mallow blossom, the eyes of a kit fox or a kangaroo rat reflecting the glow of your campfire."

"True desert is compounded of both the vast and the small. Accept its terms and give yourself to it, and your spirit will find quiet without coddling. No wonder the religions of the desert have been monotheistic: one God with each man standing directly in relation to Him, each charged with effecting his own destiny. In the desert you contemplate earth and time and life. You see the obituary column of the circling vultures, and also the miracle of dawn light catching against thorns and producing halos. You find perspective. And peace."

THE POEM WHICH FOLLOWS IS BY MURRAY SKINNER. AT FIRST YOU MAY THINK IT A HALLOWEEN POEM. BUT IT IS NOT, AS YOU WILL SEE. STILL, IT MAY BE APPROPRIATE. THANK YOU BOB CAUSEY FOR SHARING MURRAY'S POETRY. I WISH I HAD KNOWN HER.

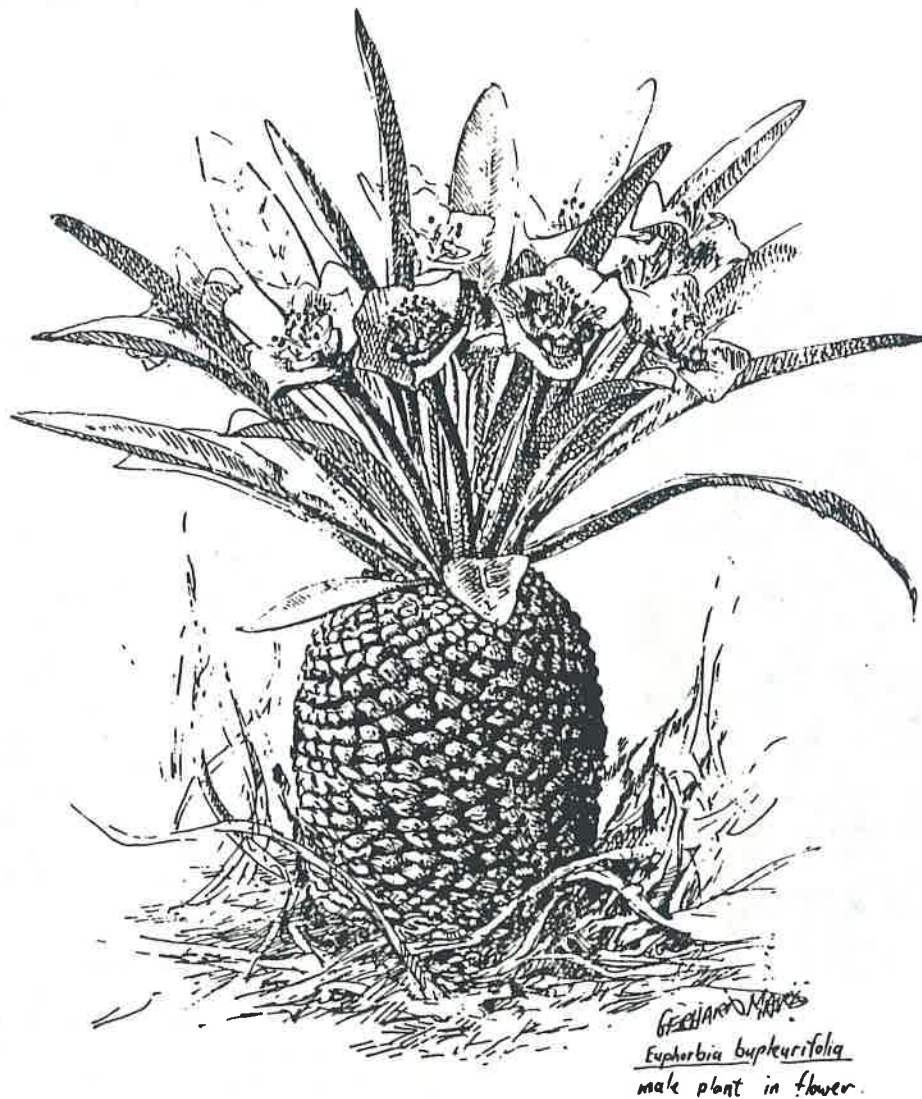
## OVER-SENSITIVE

I am afraid....  
Our fire leaps up--  
high, yellow, violet-veined,  
the flame-tongues lick and mutter,  
and the trees shrink back, back and back,  
stern and silent--  
and horribly mysterious.  
What are they saying, there,  
talking in ghostly whispers  
one to another  
as they draw their grey forms away  
till a blank, black wall  
circles about us  
hems us in....smotheringly?

I cower appalled....  
breathless, listening--  
and our fire dies down,  
down to a soft red blur,  
and the trees come close,  
they over above us suffocatingly friendly,  
reaching tentative hands to caress,  
to shield us....  
and they bend to listen,

they crowd in wistfully,  
eager for our companionship.  
Too close! What do they fear!  
Desperately I pile on fuel....  
snap, crack, what was that!  
The flames mount,  
higher, bolder, fiercer,  
and the trees draw back....are gone,  
and we alone exist  
in a blank, black world.  
I am afraid!

The drawing by Gerhard Marx is of *Euphorbia bupleurifolia*, a wonderful plant with greenish "flowers" -- from last year's SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA BULLETIN.

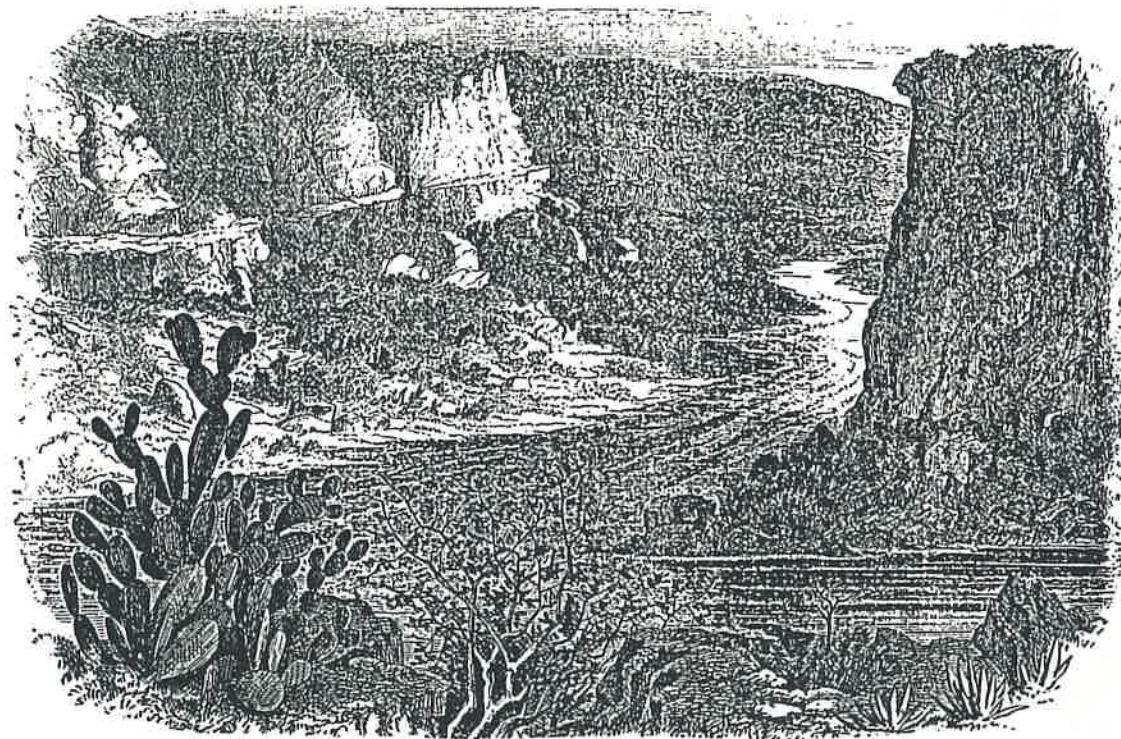


I am afraid....  
My spirit leaps up--  
high, white, crimson-veined,  
the flame of it flickers and flares,  
and my friends shrink back, back and back,  
questioning and puzzled  
and stupidly censorious.  
What are they saying, now,  
talking in scornful whispers  
one to another,  
as they draw their grey minds away  
till a blank, figureless wall  
circles about me,  
hems me in....lonesomely.

I cower appalled....  
breathless, listening,  
and my spirit dies down,  
down to a vague blue blur  
and my friends come close....  
they hover about me, thoughtful, attentive,  
reaching tender arms to caress,  
to enfold me.  
They listen, willingly,  
crowding around wistfully,  
eager for my companionship.  
Too close! What do they fear!  
Desperately I ply my mind....  
snap, crack, what was that!  
My spirit flames,  
higher, bolder, fiercer,  
and my friends draw back....are gone,  
and I alone exist  
in a bodiless world....  
I am afraid!

RULES TO LIVE BY WHEN IN THE DESERT

- > 1. ALWAYS tell some one the area you plan to visit, your departure and return dates.
- > 2. TAKE plenty food and WATER.
- > 3. BE SURE YOUR CAR is in good working order.
- > 4. STAY WITH YOUR CAR. It is very easy to become dis-oriented on the desert.
- > 5. Try to avoid traveling alone, i.e. go caravan on desert back roads - if possible.



Junction of the Rio Bravo del Norte and the Pecos.

1856 *Boundary Survey*

FROM OPEN GATES, NEWSLETTER OF THE GATES  
(RIVERSIDE) C & S SOC. -- Oct. 1989

TEGELBERG NURSERY - FEATURED IN THE SUN

Long time member Gil Tegelberg's Cactus Nursery in Lucerne Valley was the subject of a great article in the S.B. SUN on 8/24/89. It told how Gil's father, Gilbert, Sr. had started growing exotic cactus in 1921 - moving to the present location in 1958 - when he died in 1983, Gil Jr. took charge of the 1,500 plus varieties of cactus. These grow in three 100-foot greenhouses- some of the plants are more than 60 years old.

Our group has enjoyed a "special day" several times over the years by visiting this special spot. New members might be especially interested in contacting Gil and arranging to tour this lovely cactus nursery- the phone number is (619) 248-7482. Maybe as a group we would like to make another special trip to the nursery next year!

SOME OBSERVATIONS WHILE RAISING SUCCULENTS

*Oregon C&S Soc. 8/89*

Peg Spaete

Besides presenting an attractive appearance, top dressing serves several purposes. Most important to me is that it protects the base of the plant and allows the water to go directly to the root system. Top dressing also helps to support the plant, cuts down on evaporation of the moisture, keeps the soil cooler, and prevents algae growth and discoloring from fertilizing. A #2 aquarium gravel is one excellent choice.

Jades - *Crassula ovata*. This plant tends to develop a covering of fine roots on the soil surface. It will become so dense that water cannot penetrate it so when you water, it runs off to the side of the pot and quickly out the drain hole leaving the roots without a taste of water. The plant begins to wither. Since it has been "watered" regularly, one thinks it was overwatered so cuts back. Naturally the plant continues to deteriorate. When the thick stems seem to lack the turgid appearance, check the soil surface. Remove the thick mat that has formed with a knife, add some fresh soil, and water.

Similar names can be confusing. *Discocactus/Disocactus*. The former is a globular cactus which forms a cephalium and produces fragrant flowers. *Disocactus* is a flat-stemmed epiphyte with large colorful flowers. *Echinopsis/Echidnopsis*. The former is a cactus with produces large flowers with long tubes which are short lived. An echidnopsis is a stapeliad producing the usual five-pointed star flowers. Others are *Echinocereus* and *Echinocactus*; *Pterodiscus* and *Pterocactus*; *Adenium* and *Adenia*...

FROM OPEN GATES (Gates Soc. N.L.) 10/89:

DAY AT THE INTER-CITY SHOW AND SALE

Date: August 19, 1989

Destination: INTER-CITY SHOW and PLANT SALE  
of the Long Beach, Los Angeles and San  
Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent  
Societies - at the Los Angeles State and  
County Arboretum in Arcadia.

We got an early start so we could beat  
the crowd - and guess what? Everybody else  
had the same idea!

Sylvia (Gould) and I headed for the Sales  
area, Ed for the Show. The sale plants were  
outstanding - a good assortment and most of  
them reasonably priced. That first trip  
through the sales area was an exercise in  
"how many people can you pack into a given  
area and still move?" Sort of like a sardine  
trying to swim in its can! When we did get  
our plants, paying for them involved  
standing in a line that went out of the  
building, into the sales area, across one  
aisle into another, down half the length of  
the sales tables and then outside!!

The Show - Ah, THE SHOW - that was  
something to behold. Fabulous plants, well  
groomed and attractively potted. The size of  
some of them was truly impressive, also the  
number of entries. Arrangement of tables  
and presentation of plants was well done - if  
a bit crowded. Sometimes it was hard to read  
the cards with the plant names and be  
certain which plant got the ribbon.

At this point Ed came to rush me out to  
the sales area again. A new group of plants  
had just come in and among them some very  
nice SANSEVIERIAS - I got 3. (We will be  
looking forward to seeing them at OUR SHOW  
in May! -ED.)

Back to the Show - I was intrigued by  
several exhibits of tiny, tiny plants. A  
couple of them required one to lean very  
close to the plant to even see it! Now, the  
\$64 question - Where does one find such  
small pots? These were in charming ceramic  
pots, round, square, oval, rectangular,  
etc., some only a half or three-fourths of  
an inch high.

Now, for the topper - we were asked to  
note our favorite plant! How in  
the world are you going to do that??

One more trip through the sales area  
(that's right - the third). This time the  
crowd had thinned out a bit so we could  
browse.

Lunch at the cafe (felt good to sit  
down!) and then home.

Anne Beard

P.S. The Gates C & S Society was well  
represented at this event!

---

"But oh, beamish nephew, beware of the day,  
If your Snark be a Boojum!"

TODAY'S LESSON:

Lewis Carroll's poem "Hunting for the Snark"  
coined the work "Boojum." (The "snark" is a  
cross between a snake & a shark).

"But oh, beamish nephew, beware of the day,  
If your Snark be a Boojum! For then  
You will softly and suddenly vanish away,  
And never be met with again!"

(Which in a sense is what happens to the  
hearts of people who go to Baja, land of  
the Idrias! (Ok, ok, Fouquierias!) F. colum-  
naris!)

(Thanks to Virginia Martin for  
the above info. via a 1971 L.A.  
Chronicle.)

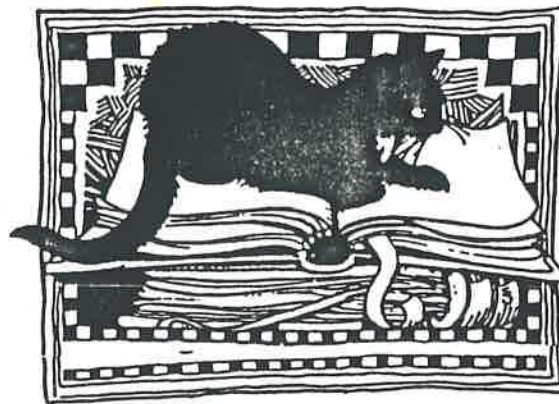
THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE  
MONTEREY BAY AREA C & S  
SOC. N.L.: ON THE DRY  
SIDE, Sept. 1989.

I don't know if we have  
these books in our library  
yet, but if not they can  
be purchased from Myron  
Kinnach or Rainbow Gardens.

A monographic study of the genus  
Rosularia (Crassulaceae) by Urs  
Eggli published by Bradleya, the  
yearbook of the British Cactus and  
Succulent Society in 1988. This is  
the best taxonomic treatment of this  
subject to date and is a fairly  
technical work. It includes  
information on the morphology,  
classification, generic  
descriptions, distribution and  
ecology of the genus. Very crisp  
line drawings illustrate many  
morphological descriptions and there  
are some excellent photo  
micrographs.

Mammillaria Names by David Hunt.  
Originally published in 1983, it has  
been reprinted from Bradleya the  
yearbook of the British Cactus and  
Succulent Society. Serious  
Mammillaria students and collectors  
will find this an indispensable  
reference. It is a very important  
annotated index of Mammillaria  
names, arranged alphabetically as a  
checklist, with notes on the place  
of publication, types and synonymy.  
Nearly 100 black and white photos  
help illuminate this genus further.

Baja California Plant Field Guide by  
Norman C. Roberts is hot of the  
press having been published by  
Natural History Publishing Company  
just this year. If you have ever  
visited Baja or have the slightest  
desire to visit this area you will  
find this guide fascinating. There  
are over 300 plants described with  
295 large, high quality color  
photographs. This is the most  
comprehensive, practical Baja plant  
field guide available. Information  
on such diverse subjects as geology,  
geography, climate and use of plants  
by aborigines, and Baja Californios  
today, are covered. A unique  
feature of the guide is that it  
gives the Spanish or Mexican name  
for plants which might be helpful in  
enlisting the help of a local person  
in locating the habitat of some  
plants. Enjoy our library copy but  
if you're going to Baja I would  
recommend you purchase your own copy  
even at the \$22.95 price for a  
softcover book. (Available from  
Rainbow Gardens Bookshop.)



## 1990 - 1991 CALENDAR

May 26-27 -- GATES C & S SOC. SHOW & SALE

Also, the big Garden Show at the LA Arboretum in Oct. will  
leave the Arboretum and resume in January of 1991 in a new  
location. Don't know why. Anyone?

NOTE: NATURE'S CURIOSITY SHOP, 3551 Evening Canyon  
Rd., Oceanside, CA 92056, 619-726-8077, is moving out-of-  
state next year. They are liquidating their stock. Contact  
them if you wish to be on their mailing list. Dealers can  
inquire about wholesale prices on specimens.

LAST MONTH'S HUNTINGTON SYMPOSIUM: Let one of the Huntington  
people know what you thought of the mix of programs at the  
Symposium. Was it not technical enough, just right, or what?

TAXONOMY: Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary defines  
"taxonomy" as the orderly classification of plants & animals  
according to their presumed natural relationships.

Notice the word "presumed." It suggests opinion. One defini-  
tion of "presume" is to suppose to be true without proof.

### FORTY WINKS

Many of your succulents are beginning to think about their winter  
dormancy. Some will drop all leaves and sleep deep and long; others  
will stop growing, drop a few leaves and doze awhile. During this  
time, you will want to keep your sleepers on the dry side, but  
it may be best to keep root hairs from drying off completely. One  
way to do this is to plant a winter dormant plant with a leaf  
succulent such as Echeveria. You still must water lightly or less  
often, but matters will be less critical as your Echeveria will  
take up most or all of the excess.

Plants about to sleep are the Pachypodiums  
(how deep the sleep, will depend  
on the species and whether or not you have  
a warm greenhouse), Cyphostemmas, Adenias,  
many of your viny caudiciforms, and others.  
Also some Begonias...







**HALLOWEEN**



**AUCTION**

The Cactus Companions  
Long Beach Cactus Club  
NEWSLETTER  
10860 El Mar Avenue  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708



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



**October**

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!**