

Long Beach Cactus Club
Roadrunner News

August 1995

**PELARGONIUMS OF THE
WESTERN CAPE**

PROGRAM: Michael Vassar will present a talk with slides on "Winter Growing *Pelargoniums* and *Oxalis* of the Western Cape of South Africa." Michael is currently editor of *Herbertia*, the Journal of the International Bulb Society, and co-editor of *Geraniums Around the World*, the Journal of the International Geranium Society. He will cover about 150 species, all of the succulent and many of the tuberous forms. Some species combine succulent stems with big tuberous roots. *Oxalis*, which in the field grow along side *Pelargoniums* and have the same growth requirements, will be included as well. In September the winter growers start coming out of dormancy, so this is your chance to get a preview of what you can do with these plants.

NEW LOCATION: Dominguez Adobe, 18127 South Alameda Street, Compton, CA 90221. We will meet in the cafeteria in the northeast corner of the big building closest to the garden.

TIME: Sunday, August 27, 1995 at 1:00 P.M. Our use of the cafeteria is limited to the hours 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Because of this constraint we will follow this schedule: 1:00 to 1:30 -- setup and refreshments, 1:30 to 3:30 -- general meeting and program, 3:30 to 4:00 -- cleanup.

PLANT OF THE MONTH: Cactus: *Frailea, Blossfeldia, Mila*
Succulent: *Pelargonium*

REFRESHMENTS: Elfa Westerhaut has signed up but everyone is invited to bring snacks and finger foods.

DOOR PRIZES, BIRTHDAY PLANTS & PLANT SALES: Don't miss out!

ATTEND THE HUNTINGTON SYMPOSIUM FREE! This year there will again be a drawing from among interested members present to select LBCC's official attendee to the Huntington Succulent Symposium on September 9, 1995. The club will pay the \$60 registration fee (the evening barbecue is not included) for the winner who will be asked to give a brief report on the symposium at the October meeting. Details on the symposium are on page 9.

LBCC OFFICERS FOR 1995

President	Dick Hulett (310) 832-2262	Secretary	Alice Richardson (310) 434-3541
VP	Gary Duke (714) 840-0505	Treasurer	Jim Hanna (310) 920-3046

Board Members, in alphabetical order, are Larry Grammer, Bill Hagblom, Virginia Martin, Laverne Fitzer, Pat Staub, and Sharon Thoerner (Past President)

MEMBERSHIP: Jim Hanna, (310) 920-3046, 6019 Pepperwood Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90712. Dues are \$8 per year for regular membership, seniors \$5; each associate member (same household) \$1.50 additional. (Senior membership is for retired persons, 65 and older.) Checks should be made out to LBCC.

NEW REFRESHMENTS CHAIRMAN

Earlene Wagner has returned as refreshments chairman. Thank you, Earlene!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We hear that Carol Wujcik has been under the weather. Glad to hear you're getting better, Carol. Hang in there, we miss you.

- Dick

NEWSLETTER

If you have any stories, cultivation tips, information about upcoming calendar events or news in general about cacti and succulents that might interest our members, please send them in or give me a call. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Remember, this is your newsletter. The address is: Lisa Smith, 2075 Appleton St. #24, Long Beach, Ca 90803. Telephone: (310) 439-8056.

JUNE PLANT OF THE MONTH WINNERS

Cactus -- Advanced

1. Bill Hagblom *Mammillaria hahniana*
2. Dick Hulett *Opuntia invicta*
3. Bill Hagblom *Astrophytum capricorne*
3. Bill Hagblom *Echinocactus baileyi*

Cactus -- Novice

1. Joe Stead *Mammillaria crucigera*
2. Liann Stead *M. hernandezii*
3. None

Succulent -- Advanced

1. Dick Hulett *Echeveria agavoides*
2. Dick Hulett *Bursera fagaroides*
3. Sharon Thoerner *Pachycormus discolor*
3. Sharon Thoerner *Calibanus hookeri*

Succulent -- Novice

1. Jacques de Tisne *Agave schidigera*
2. Joe Stead *Tacitus bellus*
3. J. de Tisne *Idria columnaris*

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9: HUNTINGTON SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108, (818) 405-2160. Full day program of talks, sales, rare plant auction, tours. Program details and registration information is on page 9 of of this newsletter..

September 11-17: IOS Intercongress in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico - meetings taking place in the offices of CANTE. Info: IOS Intercongress, c/o CANTE, Mesones 71, San Miguel de Allende, 37700, Gto., Mexico. Phone (415) 22990 and FAX (415) 24015. There will be meetings on conservation, Cactaceae, Agavaceae and others. Also field trips are in the plans. Locally, call Dave Tufenkian (818) 794-3082.

September 24: LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB FABULOUS PLANT AUCTION at the historic Dominguez Adobe, home of the Long Beach Cactus Garden, 18127 S. Alameda St., Compton, CA 90221. All are invited, but you must be a member to auction plants. Auctioneers include Minnich, Turacek and Hagblom. BYO sack lunch. Coffee/water/sodas provided. Contact Dick Hulett (310) 832-2262.

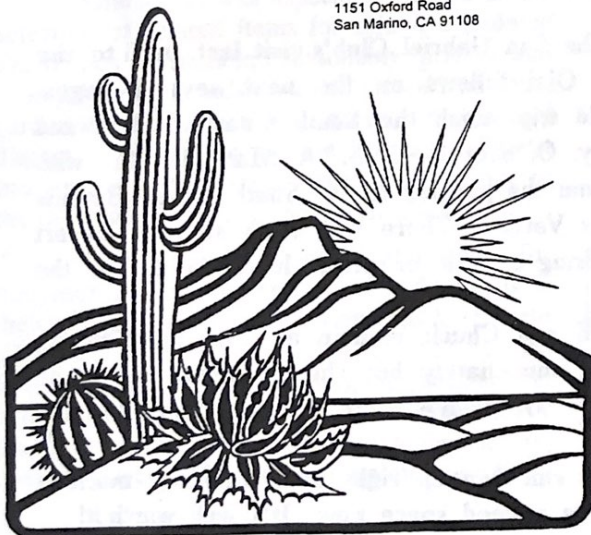
October 14 & 15: (changed from Oct. 28 & 29): SAN GABRIEL VALLEY C&S SOCIETY WINTER SHOW & SALE at Huntington Botanical Gardens. Date change due to a conflict at HBG. Info, David Tufenkian (818) 794-3082.

The San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Present the

Second Annual Winter Show & Sale

Saturday & Sunday, October 14th & 15th, 1995

10:30 am to 4:30 pm both days
At the Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108



Information: David Tufenkian 818/794-3082

CACTUS FUN CACTUS FUN CACTUS FUN

**WHAT
LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB
AUCTION**

**WHEN
SEPT. 24, 1995 11 A.M.**

**WHERE
DOMINGUEZ ADOBE
18127 S. ALAMEDA ST.
COMPTON, CA. 90221**

**LUNCH? BYO SACK LUNCH THE CLUB WILL SUPPLY
COFFEE & SODAS**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DICK HULETT (310) 832-2262

INTER-CITY SHOW

The tenth annual Inter-City Cactus and Succulent Show was held at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia this last weekend, August 19 and 20. Over fifty-six exhibitors showed a total of 1530 plants. The seven highest cumulative points winners were:

1. Woody Minnich	360	2. David & Eileen Tufenkian	313
3. Larry Grammer	216	4. Jim Hanna	143
5. Dick Hulett	137	6. Charles & Joann Spotts	133
7. Bill Hagblom	122		

In the Advanced Classification, David and Eileen Tufenkian had High Points - Cactus 184, High Points - Succulent 129, and High Average 2.99.

In the Open Classification Woody Minnich had High Points - Cactus 360. Larry Grammer had High Points Succulent - 213 and High Average 3.09.

LBCC FUTURE PROGRAMS

September 24: LBCC FABULOUS PLANT AUCTION; see . Upcoming Events, page 3.

October 25: Steve Plath of Las Vegas presents "A Year in the Life of a Gold Mine." A Mojave gold mining company is struggling to be environmentally responsible to the extent of restoring even the individual specimens to an area after it has been mined.

November 19: (one week early due to Thanksgiving) Woody Minnich's newest program is "Cactus, Canyons and Coyotes!: the Southwest United States." Woody is an excellent photographer and one of the world's most knowledgeable cactophiles. The Southwestern U.S. cacti are a fascinating and demanding group. They include some of the most difficult cacti in the world to cultivate.

December 17: Annual Holiday Party!

FIELD TRIP

A description by Carol Wujcik, of the San Gabriel Club's visit last April to the International Center for Earth Concerns in Ojai follows on the next several pages. Many places are still available for the field trip which the South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society is taking there on Saturday, October 7, 1995. A Mark IV bus with facilities will leave promptly at 8:00 A.M. from the parking lot of South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard in Palos Verdes. There will be a stop at Desert Images Nursery in Ojai on the way back. Bring a sack or picnic lunch to eat at the Center. The bus will return at 5:00 P.M.

Cost is \$10.00. If you are interested call Chuck Rennie at (310) 375-3790 to reserve a spot. It is not necessary to pay immediately but checks should be made payable to SCCCS and sent to Chuck at 26837 Grayslake Road, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.

If seats are available, Chuck says you can sign up right until Saturday morning when the bus leaves. But don't wait. Reserve a good space now. It's well worth it!

FIELD TRIP ADVENTURES '95: ROMANCING THE STONE

by Carol & Joe Wujcik

San Gabriel's first "whitewater bus trip" was a success for all, except perhaps for the bus driver, who now can tell his kids about fording wild rivers and dodging mighty boulders.....but we're getting too far ahead in our account.

What made this one of the best bus trips ever for many of us was the careful planning which make events run smoothly and efficiently. On this trip we visited three locations in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, had an adventure, and made it home for dinner.

Thanks go to Kathy Minnich, who coordinated our destinations (and ferried lunches) and to Rita and Bill Gerlach who not only collected the funds but handled bus entry/exit in an original fun way and who helped keep our timing right on. They are fabulous group leaders!

We had a beautiful, sunny day for our expedition, and our bus was almost completely full of San Gabriel and Long Beach Cactus Club members, families, and friends. Our first stop was at the Nancy and Dick Bogart's Ojai **Desert Images Nursery**, which had excellent prices and a broad selection of cacti and succulents, with some special goodies mixed in. Ellen Low discovered a giant show-worthy *Opuntia* -- in fact there were a number of unusual *opuntias*, but you had to be fast and eagle-eyed, for there were only a few of each!

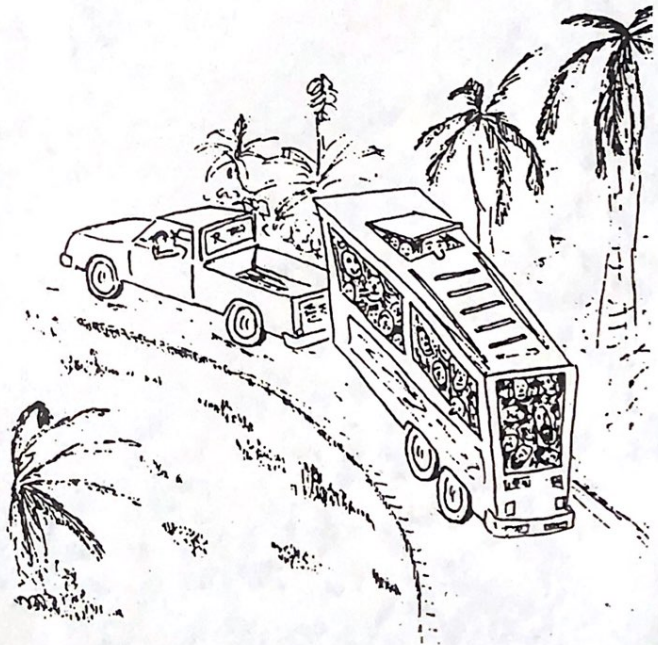
One of us was especially pleased at the selection of related items for sale -- a sculpted lizard was irresistible, reasonably priced, and promptly bought. Also, we saw lots of landscape/garden ideas, and we took pictures of the unusual display areas set up by the Bogarts. Desert Images is a very pleasant place to visit in one of the more scenic areas in Southern California.

Then we boarded our bus and headed for the International Center for Earth Concerns & their gardens, which required our bus to traverse a long and winding road ♪ ♪ ♪ through bucolic, flowering meadows and surging, rock-strewn streams. Gamely fording one of the streams, our bus first became stuck and then, while backing, one wheel went off the road completely and hung

impressively over the cascading water.

Dick Hulett leaped into the water (accompanied by two friendly water-loving canines from the Center -- one was a Golden Retriever) to thrust rocks under the wheel. A rock brigade was formed to try to help Dick shore up the bus wheel. Photos were taken, the hungry snacked on lunches, and a Suburban and other 4-wheelers from the Foundation lined up and tried to pull out the bus. But, finally, it took a tractor to push it up onto the road, where our driver gamely drove forward, picking up stragglers walking up to the Foundation located on rolling foothills. Gorgeous!

Alas, our bus was not a "magic" bus, nor was it a 4x4, but most important of all, it had a loooong wheelbase. It got hung up, again, crossing another mountain stream, this time next to a very big boulder. There was no moving that bus. It turns out not all buses are the same size, and since buses had been up this road many times we were told, they had to be **smaller** buses! For our bus, it was determined that a tow truck -- a really big tow truck -- would have to be called.



This story previously appeared in the S6UCSS Communique.

Meanwhile, our group, being composed of cactus people who by nature are troopers, set forth on our tour in excellent humor. We were divided into two groups because there were so many of us and, after an introduction to the history of this garden-in-the-making, we were guided through planting beds of blazing color, the mesemb and aloes especially vibrant, as well as exotic flowers, especially the South African proteas and Australian banksias. Specializing in South African, Australian, and native plants, the garden is still being established. Much must still be done -- like the plant labels and the newly prepared areas to be planted, but already this is an enchanting place, high up at the head of a canyon in Ojai.

The work the Center hopes to achieve is to educate, to assist environmental concerns (such as the Cheetah Campaign -- the big cats, not Tarzan's buddy), to create wonderful botanical gardens, to be a place for groups, art, workshops, classes and cultural events to happen, and through these things, promote the action needed to save wildlife.

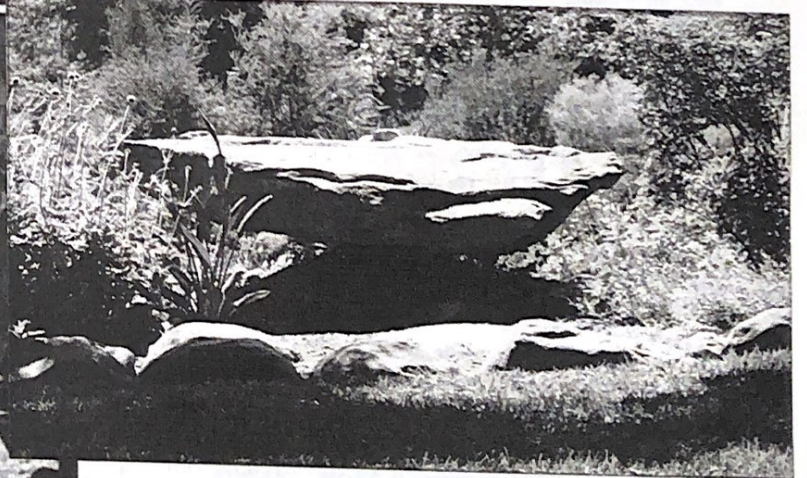


The goals of the center will no doubt continue to evolve, and three organizations have joined together to make it happen: the Conservation Endowment Fund (which owns the land), the Humane Society, and the International Wilderness Leadership (WILD) Foundation. The gardens, the organization, and the goals, all slowly fell into place over time.

In fact, the founder and one of our guides for the tour, Mr. John Taft, at one point had other plans for the land entirely. Each successive plan became more agricultural, until an avocado orchard was envisioned and the trees ordered. They never arrived. He ordered again. They still didn't arrive. It occurred to Mr. Taft that perhaps "destiny" was trying to tell him this place was meant to be more than an avocado grove.

Destiny continued to shape the vision. The right people fortuitously showed up at the right times -- serendipity -- and slowly, not without difficulties, the garden and its goals evolved. Guided by one man, the future of ICEC is secured through the Endowment Fund and the partnerships with the Humane Society and WILD.

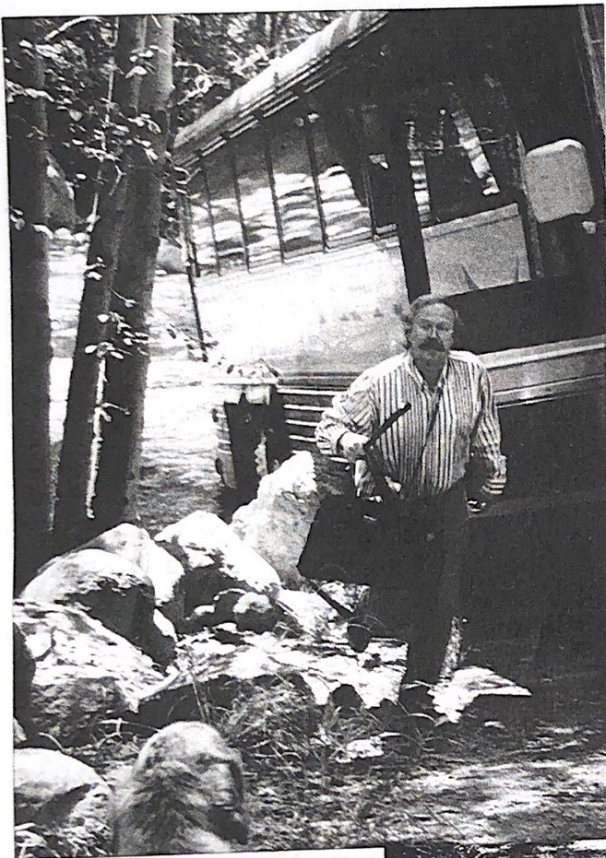
Because it is still such a young garden, we could see areas still to be planted, the Los Padres National Forest as backdrop, an amphitheater under construction, and other buildings all of stone, ready to enjoy. We ate in a wonderful area with reflecting pools and arbors. Mr. Taft gave us permission to take cuttings (an "older" established garden would never allow this), and the hospitable founder of this young botanical garden and



ICEC founder John Taft with Joyce Wilner and group.

environmental center, with the public just beginning to discover it, gave us the feeling of being welcome guests.

There is much to be done, and it will take money, but the work is well under way. Those who missed the trip may want to call and arrange a visit. The address & phone number are: International Center for Earth Concerns, 2162 Baldwin Rd., Ojai, CA 93023, 805/649-3535, FAX 805/649-1757, "a non-profit organization working from the garden to the wilderness to: appreciate the wonder of nature; understand the Earth and its systems; and initiate and cooperate on effective environmental programs." Their newsletter is still "occasional!" Contributions are of course welcome, and can be earmarked for a particular purpose. For example, if you want to get those plants labeled, contribute for that specific purpose!



From the Center we boarded our rescued bus (no damage & towing charges paid by the Center) and headed down the highway to our final destination in Carpinteria, **Abbey Garden Nursery**.

The proprietor, Lem Higgs, greeted us, and we all headed into the huge greenhouse which contains all kinds of unusual cacti and succulents. Many of us managed to spend quite a bit. The writers obtained a number of interesting ceroids plus a *Tillandsia argentea*. In fact, we were last back on the bus!

In no time we were Arboretum-bound. It was a good day with a little adventure thrown in gratis. The plants were unloaded (during all the maneuvering they came through untoppled), everyone headed for their cars, and most of us made it home for dinner.

Next comes the Mojave trip -- this time by car. The bus hasn't been made that can climb way up Clark Mountain although a bus might handle the power line road. Something to think about while we plan the next trip to Grigsby's and Quail Gardens, or Lotusland, or

Tom Glavich darts away from the listing bus.



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Above: More adventure!

To the right: Coyote sculpture at Desert Images.

Below: Liz and Jerry Alba with Dick Bogart and a multitude of plants to bring home.

We regret we were too busy buying plants to take photos at Abbey Garden!



The End



"The Future of Public Collections"

Twelfth Symposium on Succulent Plants

Saturday, 9 September 1995
Huntington Botanical Gardens

Speakers from gardens with major collections will discuss the nature of public collections, how they serve us, and what the future holds for them.

Program:

- Gerald S. Barad, Flemington, New Jersey
"The World of Succulent Gardens"
- Mark A. Dimmitt, Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum, Tucson, Arizona
On the collections at Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum
- Harold Koopowitz, Irvine Arboretum, Irvine, California
"Unusual Geophytes and Xerophytes in Southern Africa"
- Beat Ernst Leucenberger, Berlin-Dahlem Botanic Garden, Berlin, Germany
"The Succulent Collections of Berlin-Dahlem Botanic Garden"
- Laura Vinson Northrop, Atlanta Botanical Garden
"Status of Atlanta Botanical Garden Succulent Collection"
- Liz Slauson, Desert Botanical Garden
"Succulent Collections, Management and Research at the Desert Botanical Garden"
- James P. Folsom and staff, Huntington Botanical Gardens
On the collections at Huntington Botanical Gardens

Registration:

Symposium	\$60.00
Evening barbecue	\$20.00

Time:

Continental breakfast and registration begin at 8:30 A.M. Programs from 9:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. will include speaker presentations, silent auction, garden and conservatory tours, refreshments, and lunch. The optional evening barbecue at the home of the gardens director will begin at 6:00 P.M.

To register:

Mail your name(s), address, and a check (made payable to The Huntington) for the appropriate amount to:

Succulent Symposium
Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108
(818) 405-2160
(818) 405-2260 FAX

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Number of persons for the program: _____

X \$60.00 = _____

Number for persons for barbecue: _____

X \$20.00 = _____

Donation to defray symposium expenses: _____

Total enclosed: _____

The deadline for registration is September 5th. We cannot guarantee meals for late registrants.

NEW MEETING LOCATION, AGAIN!

Starting Sunday, August 27, 1995, the Long Beach Cactus Club will be meeting in the cafeteria of the DOMINGUEZ ADOBE, 18127 South Alameda Street, Compton, CA 90221. Take the 91 Redondo Beach/Artesia Freeway and exit south on Alameda. Signs for the Adobe are posted on the freeway and on Alameda. Coming from the freeway, the entrance to the Adobe is on the right or west side of Alameda. The cafeteria is in the northeast corner of the big building closest to the garden.

We have the use of the cafeteria from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. But if you arrive early, take time to view the club's official garden which is ably curated by Bill Hagblom.

Roadrunner News

Newsletter of the Long Beach Cactus Club
2075 Appleton St. #24
Long Beach, CA 90803

FIRST CLASS PLEASE