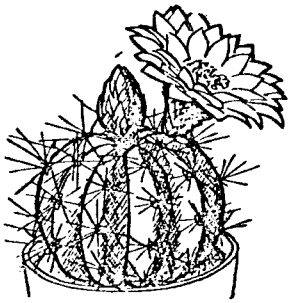
CENTRAL ARIZONA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

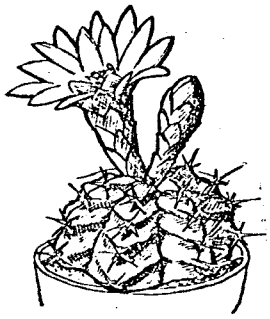
Volume 1, Number 3 January 28, 1976



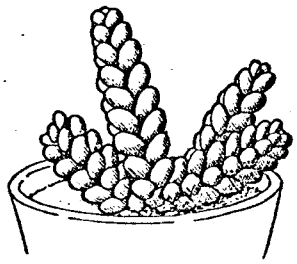
THE DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN.

[Although the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society has no official affiliation with the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, the Society certainly feels that the Garden is its home. The Society thus supports the Garden in all of its activities and enjoys seeing the Garden receive the international acclaim it so richly deserves. Following are excerpts from an article entitled "Thru the Years at the Desert Botanical Garden" by Virginia F. Martin which appeared in the November-December, 1975, issue of the CACTUS AND SUCCULENT JOURNAL. Ed.]

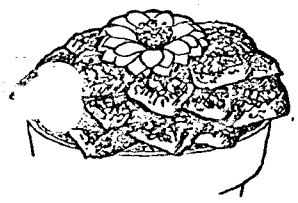
The dream of a forward-looking engineer was the forerunner of the Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, Arizona—the beauty of which most assuredly has far surpassed that dream. Gustaf H. Starck (1871-1947) was an engineer on the Salt River Project in 1910. While engaged in this work he became most interested in desert plants. On purchased acreage at Scottsdale Road and Indian School Road, Phoenix, he grew a line of citrus trees and did experimental work. He spent much time tramping in the desert and tried to get plants identified. Although he could not find anyone locally who knew the names, he built up a file of herbarium sheets and sent them to the National Herbarium, Washington, D.C., for identification. Interested people who came on horseback and in wagons met with him for plant discussions on Sunday afternoons [much like the C.A.C.S.S. does today].



In 1929-30, Mrs. Gertrude Divine Webster, a wealthy New Englander, became interested. She brought some plants back from Switzerland for the group but was denied permission to bring them into the country. Senator Hayden was successful in getting them for the "Desert Club". The group later incorporated so they could acquire land on which to build a desert botanical garden. The group was able to get a Bill through the State of Arizona House setting aside 300 acres in Papago Park (Phoenix) for a desert botanical garden for future development. Mrs. Webster, a concerned philanthropist, contributed all building material for the construction of the garden's first building-the Webster Auditorium and Administration Office-erected in 1938 thru WPA labor. Engineer Starck's collection of desert plants and Mrs. Webster's collection of cacti and other plants from her nearby estate, "Arcadia", made up some of the original plantings.



W. Hubert Earle FCSS, who had come to the garden as horticulturist in 1947, was named director in 1957 in which position he serves so eloquently today. [Hubert Earle is a member of the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society.] Mr. Earle, CSSA Fellow and board member, has written many articles on desert plants for publication. Well-known is "Cacti of the Southwest"-a comprehensive volume on the classification of genera which inhabit the area; "Cacti, Wildflowers and Desert Plants of Arizona"-a booklet of beautiful color photographs of a few of the thousands of species found in the state together with interesting commentary. He also edited the very popular "Desert in Bloom"-a picture book of over 55 cactus photographs, outstandingly portrayed. He is the editor of the "Saguaroland Bulletin" which publication "attempts to promote the garden and to provide information on the desert plants and their culture."



[The C.A.C.S.S. is proud indeed to be associated with the Desert Botanical Garden and to have its illustrious director, Hubert Earle, as a member.]

MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE L. (AIZOACEAE, FICOIDACEAE) by JAMES A. ROBBINS.

Part Two: Cultivation of some individual genera of the Mesembryanthemaceae:

In my collection, which I began in 1949, I have over 25 genera and more than 200 species of Mesembs. The following notes are taken from observations made between 1949 and the present. I must say that my loses have been greater than my successes, or at least my card file indicates this. It has only been during the last ten years that I have been able to bring my loses down substantially.

1. Aloinopsis. These are dwarf tufted plants with tuberous rootstocks. A deeper pot should be used. Plants flower from January through March and growth starts around this same time. Mine are planted out in a rock garden and have taken frost down to 14° F. Here in Sierra Vista we have about 100 nights a year with frost as the elevation is 4,600 feet. We also have from seven to 11 inches of snow per year.

2. Argyroderma. I have had very limited success with these plants. Growth and flowering seem to start in the fall. Clay pots with a very porous soil mix should be used and plants should be watered only when new growth or flowers appear. By February the water should be in the form of mist or a small amount applied to the outer edge of the pot.

3. Bergeranthus. These plants flower from December through March and sometimes in the fall. Growth should be rested for a few months in winter.

4. Bijlia. Growth starts in October with flowers shortly thereafter. These plants will take considerable water while growing but need a resting period starting in March.

5. Cheiridopsis. These plants flower from January through March. Growth can be off and on the year around, especially with those in a rock garden. Growth usually starts in October when grown in pots. Some plants are hardy to 14° F.

6. Conophytum. These are small succulent plants which can be cone-shaped (thus the genus name), cylindrical with windows, or bilobed. The group is lovely and should be more widely grown. I have 45 species in my collection from ten years old down to one year old. One clump of C. minutum has over 100 heads. These plants on the whole will take a heavier soil (equal parts sand and commercial potting mix) and more water. Flowers start appearing in the latter part of August and are usually finished by the first part of November. Growth starts showing through the old leaves about January and continues through March. Plants should be rested for at least six to eight weeks giving small amounts of water to the outer edge of the pot or occasional misting. Watering should be heavy during the growing period. Conophytums do not do well when planted out in the ground.

7. Dinteranthus. This is one of my favorites as the plants do not look real, rather like they were carved out of stone. Flowers start appearing the middle of August and continue through the first part of November. The soil mix should consist of about three parts sand to one part commercial soil. Plant in clay pots and under-water at all times. I have four of the six species and most of them live about three to five years with me. However, I have had one plant of D. microspermus for seven years. At least one of the species, D. puberulus, grows well in the rock garden and did not freeze until the temperature went down to 6° F. one night last winter. These are lovely plants well worth the effort it takes to keep them alive. When my plants flower I often take them to work (at the pharmacy), and Dinteranthus always causes people to stop, look, and exclaim in wonder, "Are these really plants?"

8. Faucaria. This is an interesting genus of about 33 species with succulent leaves that have cartilaginous edges and often awn-shaped teeth along the margins that look like gaping jaws, hence the genus name. Quite often F. tigrina or F. tuberculosa are among the first Mesembs a collector gets. Those in the rock garden start blooming in August and continue (in pots) up into November. Growth starts any time after blooming and plants are seldom lost to overwatering. Most are hardy down to 14° F. and some down to 6° F.

9. Fenestraria. Flowers can appear from the end of August through the end of January, but they usually appear in November. They should be rested for several weeks beginning in March. They will take quite a bit of water while actively growing but are not hardy.

10. Frithia. Frithia pulchra, the only plant in the genus, is stemless with alternately windowed leaves and pretty reddish-purple flowers. Use a plastic pot with equal parts sand and potting soil, and then add some more sand. Place the base of the plant in a dressing of pebbles so that it is not touching the soil. The two plants that I have had for the past five years have bloomed in the following months: May, June, August, October, November and December. New leaves appear in January through March.

11. Gibbaeum. This genus of 21 species has proven impossible for me to grow. The only member of this genus I have had any success with at all is G. heathii. One plant that I raised from seed was in my collection for seven years. It was planted out in the rock garden and my observations are based on that one plant. Flowers appear in April and new leaves from January through April (one time in September). The plant was hardy to 14° F. I would like to know more about the cultivation of these plants as they are outstanding in appearance and flowering.

12. Glottyphyllum. Flowers appear from September through December. New growth begins anytime thereafter. This genus appears at its best when potted in clay pots with a very porous soil mix (three parts sand to one part commercial soil), and water is kept to an absolute minimum. If watered too heavily, these plants tend to lose their characteristic form and become leggy and unnatural in appearance. G. oligocarpum is, in my estimation, one of the most beautiful plants that God made.

13. Herreanthus. H. mereri is the only plant in this genus. It is a lovely plant with Argyroderma-like epidermis and scented white flowers that once open remain open day and night for two weeks. Buds appear in late October and flowers open from November 15th through the 30th. New leaves appear in February or March. Water should be withheld from May through June. This is a lovely plant.

14. Lapidaria. This beautiful plant is also monotypic, that is having only one species in the genus, L. margaretae. Yellow flowers appear from the end of September up through the end of October. The soil should be porous, but plastic pots are okay. Watering should be kept to a minimum. New leaves start showing from January through March.

15. Lithops. These interesting South African succulents have been cussed and discussed in great detail. In fact, an entire book has been written about them. I have 22 species, 7 varieties and 1 duplicate in my collection. L. localis (L. terricolor), raised from seed 21 years ago, has been planted out in the rock garden for the past 18 years. L. salicola and L. turbiniformis have been planted out in the ground for nine years. Along with others, they have withstood temperatures to 14° F. and some even to 6° F. Lithops can be planted in plastic pots with a fairly porous soil mix and watered heavily during their growing period from August through February. Plants in pots should be planted higher than those in the ground. Those in the ground can be planted down to their leaf tops. Flowers appear from August to November except L. optica var. rubra which flowers in December or January. These are very interesting and fascinating plants. For an up to date list of Lithops, see Desmond Coles Checklist in Excelsa, No. 3, December 1973.

16. Mitrophyllum. This is a very touchy genus. Porous soil and plastic pots should be used. Growth starts in September and is over by the first of March. They should be given no water at all from March through September. The leaves can be fogged with a spray once every two or three weeks. I have three species, two for five years and one for four years. They have not bloomed as yet. These plants have an interesting type of leaf growth as they form two types of leaves each year (heterophylly). They are difficult to grow but worth the extra care they require.

17. Nananthus. These are dwarf, tufted, glaborous plants with tuberous rootstocks. Use deep pots and somewhat porous soil. Plants should be watered when new growth appears, usually in December to January. They flower from January through March. These are easy plants to grow if you do not overwater them. They will take temperatures down to 14° F.

18. Oscularia. These shrubby plants are easy to grow. They take a medium soil and

and lots of water from September through February. They are tender below 25° F.

19. Stomatium. These miniature plants are highly succulent and resemble Faucarias. The flowers are straw-colored and open at night. Some have withstood temperatures of 14° F. They are easy to grow in a medium soil mix in plastic pots. Growth starts in January and often continues right on through the summer.

20. Titanopsis. These are short-stemmed, very succulent perennials with spatulate leaves, the ends of which are covered with raised pustules containing calcium. When withdrawn into the soil, they greatly resemble the tufts of limestone among which they grow. Use porous soil, plastic pots, and a minimum amount of water to keep them looking natural. Plants flower from December through March. New leaves appear in summer. I have had one plant of T. calcarea (that I raised from seed) for 23 years. It has done well in the rock garden for 20 years. This is a very interesting group of plants and quite hardy.

21. Ophthalmophyllum. These highly succulent plants somewhat resemble Lithops on the one hand, and Conophytums on the other. I have five species and three duplicates. Flowers start appearing in September and continue through October. Most are white, some diurnal, others nocturnal. New leaves appear in March. My favorite plant is O. rufescens with its red-windowed leaves and fragrant white nocturnal flowers. This plant with two heads has won four blue ribbons and one red. Use clay pots, porous soil, and water only when blooming or showing new growth.

22. Pleiospilos. Plants bloom from August to December. They are hardy to 14° F. and culture is easy. P. nelii blooms in March and is hardy only to 28° F. Medium soil should be used with clay or plastic pots, and plants should receive lots of water when flowering or showing new leaves.

23. Vanheerdia. These plants have very diversified leaf forms. I have two species, V. divergens which looks like a fat Cheiridopsis, and V. primosii which looks like a windowed, leafed Lithops. Use plastic pots with porous soil and water only when flowering or showing new leaves. New leaves appear in March while flowers appear in May. V. divergens is hardy to 14° F.

This covers some of the genera in my collection that I have personally watched over a period of years. I hope that these notes will be of some use in your growing of these wonderful plants. Lots of tender loving care is needed, but they are well worth it. After all, we talk to our plants and the molecules of hemoglobin and chlorophyl differ only slightly in their configuration, one having iron, the other magnesium.

I would like to end this article with a quote that covers my feelings about these beautiful mimicry plants. It expresses my feelings about raising them and enjoying their diversity. Psalm 96:12. "Let the field be joyful and all that is therein; then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice."

ROOTING EUPHORBIA LEAVES by KENT C. NEWLAND.

When someone says that it has never been done with Euphorbias, someone else usually does it. So it is with the rooting of Euphorbia baga leaves, accomplished in this case by Len Newton, an English-educated botanist now living in Ghana. His success was reported in the September issue of the National Cactus and Succulent Journal of Great Britain. E. baga is a small geophyte of tropical West Africa. The plant is basically an underground tuber from which arises a short stem, branching with age, bearing annual crops of succulent leaves. Twenty-six of the leaves were removed and set directly without drying into a 50/50 mixture of sand and peat. In about a month some had formed adventitious roots. It is not known yet whether the roots (tubers) can later bud to grow new shoots. Succulent Senecio leaves will often root easily when detached from the plant, but they will not produce new shoots. Hopefully, if things work out, this technique could become a means of propagating this rare Euphorbia species.

CACTUS SHOW POINTERS by RODNEY G. ENGARD.

As consistent winners of our cactus show will tell you, preparation and conditioning of plants for exhibition starts when you take your plants home from the previous year's show.

It is really too late now to re-pot. To achieve a well-established plant that will not fall over from a slight jar takes time, especially for the slower growing, top-heavy plants. Proper fertilizing and lighting to stimulate flowering at cactus show time must take place long before the show.

In selecting a plant to bring to the show, several things should be considered. One is simply the inclination of the exhibitor. I have seen some truly fine specimens of relatively common plants passed over in favor of a really mediocre plant on the basis of rarity. Rarity is only one tenth of the point scale. A well-grown, healthy plant of many common species canbe a beauty. No plant will be accepted for registration if it is diseased. Check your plants over with a hand lens for mites, mealy bugs or virus. To bring a plant in poor health does a serious disservice to your fellow exhibitors. In addition, it lowers the overall quality of the show.

Changes in the judges point scale will show a shift toward an emphasis on the plant and those areas over which the grower has the most control.

On the subject of nomenclature, the society membership can be of considerable service. If you do not know the name of your plant, bring it and we will try to identify it. Do not be upset, however, if no one knows its name as there are thousands of species of succulent plants and many new ones are discovered each year.

Degree of maturity is determined by size and the presence of fruit, spent flowers, cephalia, or other reproductive structures. Size of course is judged relative to the other specimens present.

Staging is one of the more difficult point categories for which to prepare a plant for judging. To some extent, it depends upon the taste and preference of the viewer. In selecting a pot, plain or fancy, its shape and size should be in harmony with the shape size, color and texture of the plant for which it is meant. Most people seem to prefer a single plant placed with mathematical precision in the exact center of the pot. Top dressing co-ordinated with the color and texture of the plant and pot enhances the overall appearance of the specimen. It also functions as a mulch to prevent excessive, too-rapid drying of the soil surface. Mulches also keep the soil cooler and prevent soil from being splashed from the container during watering. Both of these last two items help protect surface feeder roots. They also serve as a surface upon which excessive build-ups of salt may accumulate and thereby provide an easy means of disposal. Be aware, however, that colorful gravels may have chemical constituents which could be toxic to plants.

In preparing an old pot for replanting, leave it in a weak vinegar solution for a day or two to help soften and disolve out accumulated salts in the pore space of clay pots. This, followed by a vigorous scrubing with a stiff brush, should make a pot presentable. Coating the inside of porous clay pots may prevent the discoloration from occuring in the first place.

A careful review of the winners each year should provide pointers to selecting and preparing your future entries.

BRINGING PLANTS INTO THE COUNTRY by BARCIA W. BREMER.

Private collectors may bring plants into the United States providing they have a permit from the Department of Agriculture of the United States. Plants may not be over one foot in height, excluding the root structure, and must be dirt, disease, and pest free. No duty is imposed on such plants for private collectors. The regulations for commercial dealers are similar, but dutiable.

We use a variety of tools in the cleaning of our plants. Gloves, for many plants, are

a necessity, although I usually wear one glove and leave the other hand free for necessary cleaning. A variety of brushes are carried, but probably a toothbrush is the best for the nitty-gritty cleaning. I find tweezers an indispensable tool, not only for removing grass from among the spines, but also for probing suspicious looking spots in the body of the plant or the root structure. Tweezers are also good for removing spines from one's hands after cleaning the plants. After our plants are cleaned, each is wrapped individually in newspaper. If two or three small plants are collected in the same locality, they are placed together (in their individual newspaper wrappings) in a paper bag. This helps us to properly identify the plants as having been collected from the same place upon our return home. Frequently, if time permits, a slip of paper with the plant's identification number from the log will be placed with the plant in its newspaper wrapping.

We have found the customs personnel to be extremely courteous and helpful, and, except for our first collecting trip through El Paso, they have been satisfied with a visual inspection of our plants. They are careful and thorough in the inspection, however, as they should be.

The succulents I had collected or been given on the October trip had each been wrapped individually in a tissue. Although they totaled 17 plants and cuttings, they were so small that I had placed them in a single paper bag.

Upon arriving at customs in October, the plants were taken into the inspection room where I unwrapped them (placing them on their respective wrappings) and passed them along to the inspector. After each was inspected, Lew rewrapped them. This is our usual procedure at customs, whether at El Paso or Nogales. This time the inspector stopped and made a telephone call. My first thought was that he had found something wrong with a plant - particularly when two other inspectors also came into the room. It turned out that he was so pleased with our method of packing and handling of the plants in the inspection area that he had called in two other inspectors to show them "how it should be done." Evidently many collectors come to the border with plants dumped in boxes so that the spines and roots are intertwined, and they can't understand why the officials don't like to make visual inspections. Of course, the smaller the collection the more likely the inspectors will be satisfied with a visual inspection.

We were on our way out of El Paso by noon with hopes of getting home that evening. However, at San Simon we ran into a bit of a snag with the Arizona inspectors. They didn't know what to do with private collectors as opposed to commercial ones. A call was made to the Phoenix office and this is what ensued. The plants were not inspected, but each had to be taken out of its bag and newspaper wrapping so that the agricultural inspector could tie a piece of twine around each plant and put a blue clamp on the twine. The plants then had to be rewrapped in the newspaper and put back into the bags. We were instructed to remove the blue clamps upon arrival home and to destroy them. The reason the Phoenix office gave for this procedure was that if we should happen to be stopped for any reason on the way to Sun City, the blue clamps on the plants would indicate that they had been brought into the state legally. The San Simon inspectors thought that this was rather ridiculous since we had a legal permit and had been cleared by federal authorities, but this is bureaucracy in action. With this lengthy delay, we spent the night in Willcox watching the World Series before returning home the next day.

FROST ON THE CACTUS by KENT C. NEWLAND.

While working for the Boyce Thompson Arboretum near Superior for the past three and a half years, I have learned some lessons about frost and succulent plants the hard way. Some of these lessons may be of interest to you in trying to keep your own plants from dying or being injured during our sometimes severe winters.

Our gardens are situated at 2,400 feet of elevation and have experienced a low

of 17° F in 1969 which marred our specimens of senita and eucalyptus. I have found establishment and correct situation to be of utmost importance. Cold air is much like water and low areas where cold air can settle should be avoided when dealing with tender plants. The most critical time as far as frost is concerned is just before sunrise when the air is the coldest. The plants should be situation so the frost can be burned off as quickly as possible. Minutes hang like hours when there is frost on your plants. Placing frost sensitive plants adjacent to rock walls that throw back absorbed heat has worked with reasonable success in our cactus gardens. Establishing your plants in the summer so they can lay down extensive root systems before winter rolls around is important. Well-established species usually fare better through a severe frost than poorly established plants. The gradual withholding of water during the fall to take your plants into winter dormancy is important to harden the summer's growth before winter sets in. If the plants are outside, they generally get enough water from our winter rains to keep their roots alive. This is what usually damages our aloes. They engorge themselves on the winter rains and then are zapped by the cold air.

If possible, one should cover tender plants when especially low temperatures are expected. Never use plastic bags as they tend to conduct the cold right to the growing point of the plant. Paper grocery bags and corrugated boxes are good. Blankets and other cloth covers are good insulators against the cold but can become very heavy if rained upon. Natural lath houses like trees and shrubs give some protection. Speaking of lath houses, aluminum houses have been found to get 10° to 20° colder than wooden houses which could make quite a difference for some tender plants. The floor of the lath house tends to be its coldest part and thus should be avoided. All frost tender species should be staged above the floor so that cold air can drain off. Keep an eye and ear on weather reports. When the severest weather threatens, prized possessions can be moved inside.

Most species of the following genera have proven hardy enough to withstand even our severest frosts: Acanthocalycium, Ancistrocactus, Arequipa, Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Austrocactus, Aztekium, Blossfeldia, Borzicactus, Chamaecereus, Cochemiea, Copiapoa, Coryphantha, Dolichothele, Echinocactus, Echinocereus, Echinofossulocactus, Echinomastus, Echinopsis, Epithelantha, Escobaria, Espostoa, Eulychnia, Ferocactus, Frailea, Cymnocalycium, Haageocereus, Hamtocactus, Horridocactus, Islaya, Leuchtenbergia, Lobivia, Lophophora, Loxanthocereus, Machaerocereus, Maihuenia, Mammillaria, Matucana, Neobesseya, Neolloydia, Neoporteria, Notocactus, Obregonia, Opuntia, Oreocereus, Oroya, Parodia, Pediocactus, Pelecyphora, Pterocactus, Pygmaeocereus, Pyrrhocactus, Rebutia, Sclerocactus, Setiechinopsis, Soehrensia, Strombocactus, Stetsonia, Sulcorebutia, Tephrocactus, Thelocactus, Toumeya, Trochocereus, Turbinocarpus, Weingartia, and Wilcoxia.

Even though we look at the saguaro as a pretty tough cactus in our area, it can be killed if the temperature drops below 32° F for more than 24 hours. Cold weather is a challenge. I hope my observations will help you to save your plants from the iceman.

NEW CLASSIFICATIONS AND RULES FOR THE CACTUS SHOW by RODNEY G. ENGARD.

First, let me point out that these changes have been based upon the judgement and experience of the volunteers and staff of the Desert Botanical Garden, and a committee of longtime members and exhibitors. They are designed to eliminate some of the confusion and speed the registration of entries.

In the cactus section a major change has been made in the Mammillaria division. Small growing but exquisite mammillarias were being judged against their more robust cousins. The old classification of hooked spines, straight spines, or milky sapped was not a mutually exclusive system. The present system, based upon pot size, can be used by anyone with a ruler, and it provides an opportunity for the miniature mammillarias to be recognized.

Crested and monstrose plants, it was felt, were not always sufficiently distinct to merit separate judgement, and so they have been combined.

Limiting the number of specimens in a collection was necessary because of space limitations.

In the succulent classification, division 14 has been set up to provide a place for some of the less commonly grown genera of the Mesembtyanthemaceae.

One change has been made in the section dealing with Desert Trees and Shrubs. That is, the addition of Class C, Caudiciformes. As the number of growers of these odd plants such as Ibervillea, Calibanus and others increased, we felt they might be best judged as a group.

In the art and photography section, changes have mainly meant reductions in entries allowed and elimination of the craft divisions for reasons of space limitation. In these categories a more literal approach to the concept of "desert subject" will be interpreted by our committee this year.

BOOK REVIEW by KENT C. NEWLAND.

POPULAR AND EXOTIC CACTI IN COLOR by Edgar and Brian Lamb. 1975. Blandford Press. $9.00. Well, Edgar and Brian Lamb have done it again. You would think nothing could rival their Pocket Encyclopedia for a good introductory treatment of the more popular genera of cacti and succulents, but their new book does this and more. About 160 genera of cacti and other succulents are treated with a representative species of each. They are captured with a lavish half or full page color plate along with the correct name, pronunciation, family, habitat, description, cultivation, and occasional footnote. The photo processing was done by a firm that deals with natural history photography and is truly remarkable. You may be interested in the following notes: Wigginsia (South American globular cacti) possess sensitive filaments (the lower part of the stamen). When they are touched by an insect they close towards the style dusting the insect with pollen, which it will inadvertently take to another flower. Sinocrassula yunnanensis, a small rosetting succulent, lives entirely in the Hymalayas of China and India, at 20,000 feet no less. It survives in the cracks of rocks where is has good drainage. Probably the most peculiar plant presented in this book is Brachystelma barberiae, a tuberous succulent member of the milkweed family, with a strange umbel (cluster) of purple flowers. The genus ranges from Ethiopia to South Africa and is spectacular in flower. This excellent book illustrates the true beauty of our interest in cacti and succulents.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER.

This is my last issue as Editor of the society's Newsletter. It was an enjoyable and enlightening experience, but I am more than happy to turn the editorship over to Henry Triesler. Henry tells me that serving as editor of a paper was a childhood ambition. I am sure that he will do an excellent job. I would like to thank those that helped me with the Newsletter, those that submitted articles and those that provided helpful comments. I would especially like to thank Genevieve Oppen who solicited more articles for the Newsletter than even the Editor did.