

The

Central

Spine

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CONTENTS:

HISTORY OF CACSS 1977-1980 by MARILYN FITZ-RANDOLPH

HENRY TRIESLER, CACTOPHILE by VERA GAMET

A NEW TECHNIQUE FOR GRAFTING CACTUS Courtesy of ELAINE TAYLOR

CORRECTION: CHARTER MEMBERS -- 1973

1977

- JAN. The dues were increased to \$14.50 for active members and \$1.00 for associates. Kent Newland was asked to serve as a consultant by Sunset Magazine in the area of conservation in their new book on succulents and cacti. The members were growing small organ pipe cactus (1084 of them) to be used as table favors for the CSSA convention in Tucson.
- FEB. Annual Garden Show! Sweepstakes winners--Fran Tolleson and Bob Moulis
- MAR. Plans for the CSSA Convention in Tucson continued to dominate the discussions. At this meeting \$250 was voted to cover the cost of centerpieces at the Banquet sponsored by our chapter. The program was on cycads and presented by Carl Thompson.
- APRIL Henry Triesler, modeling a shirt with a cactus and succulent motif, made a report on convention facilities in Tucson. The speaker was Mr. Hubert Earle who spoke on cactus collections he visited in southern England.
- MAY 23 members had attended the Convention in Tucson with 400+ nationwide participants. Bob Moulis had presented a program there "Visit your cactus and succulents in macro-photography", Hubert Earle spoke on "Botanical gardens along the Mediterranean Sea", and Henry Triesler gave a "Chamber of Commerce" speech that did convince some Californians that Arizona is cactus country too.
- JUNE A membership form for the organization was being designed. This was to be distributed at the DBG Gift Shop, Boyce Thompson Gift Shop and at any activity where the Club was involved.
- JULY Open gardens were put on hold til cooler weather. (So what else is new in Phoenix in the summer?) The DBG was sponsoring a trip to Huntington and Growers in Calif. in August. The program was Inge Hoffman's trip to Peru in 1975.
- AUG. Members always seemed to be on the move. This month Earl Passwater gave the details of a "California Cactus Run" to San Diego, Vista, and Los Angeles in Sept. The program was a slide presentation on "Stapeliads and other milkweeds."
- SEPT. The members trekked to ASU to hear Dr. James Schoenwetter speak on pollen. An almost verbatim copy of his speech is recorded in the minutes. Barcia Bremer was a very competent secretary.
- OCT. A running discussion for the entire year was the selection of a logo for the Club. At this point, the logos were going to a photographer. Committee work is democratic, but sure slow. The speaker was Virginia Martin, President of CSSA, who showed slides of her trip to the cactus country of Mexico.
- NOV. Field trip to Boyce Thompson Arboretum.
- DEC. The social meeting was held at the home of Genevieve and Chester Oppen. New officers for 1978:
Pres.-----Kent Newland
V.Pres.---Frank Hennessey
Sec.-----Joan Skirvin
Treas.----Margaret Caldwell
Aff. Dir.-Genevieve Oppen
Directors-Fran Tolleson
John Graham



- JAN. This was a "how to" meeting. Kent Newland showed how to propagate plants vegetatively, Bob Moulis demonstrated grafting, Henry Triesler showed how to root euphorbias and Joan Skirvin talked on growing plants from seeds.
- FEB. Rodney Engard encouraged members to enter the Salt River Project/DBG sponsored Arizona Landscape contest. Margaret Caldwell showed water colored sketches of a proposed solar energy greenhouse for the Garden. Hubert Earle entertained with slides of the Royal Botanical Garden at Kew.
- MAR. Skimpy notes for this month. The program was a slide presentation on mamillarias. The official membership for this year lists 70 active and associate members
- APRIL A field trip to the Lost Dutchman State Park with Kent Newland leading a nature walk.
- MAY Henry Triesler still was selling cactus design fabric and Ann Fellers was sewing shirts for those who were all thumbs. Lewis Bremer had the publication of his new coryphantha species in the Cactus and Succulent Journal.
- JUNE Members voted \$250 to purchase a slide projector. Kent Newland showed slides of his spring trip to Baja California.
- JULY Plans were made for an exhibit to be held at the Valley National Bank Center in Nov. John Graham was the exhibit chairman. Program was slide presentation on stapeliads.
- AUG. Progress marched forward on the VNB project. Lew Bremer spoke on coryphanthas.
- SEPT. Direct quote-"Henry Triesler, dressed in a colorful shirt he purchased in Africa (and which he says are probably worn only by tourists) started his talk on 'Succulenta '78' and the two safaris he went on, with a bit of history of the southern part of that continent. His slides of aloe trees and euphorbias 40 feet tall were impressive."
- OCT. The VNB Exhibit was in full swing. The theme, selected by Emmy LaTempa and Chris Dezelsky, was "Exotic Cacti and other Succulents around the World". Members volunteered 50 large and 100 medium to small plants for the display.
- NOV. The VNB exhibit was a huge success--"the effort had brought forth a great exhibition of beautiful specimen plants in an exceptionally informative and attractive arrangement."
- DEC. The Christmas party was held at the home of Emmy LaTempa. New officers elected for 1979 were:
 Pres.-----Kent Newland
 V.Pres.----Frank Hennessey
 Sec.-----Emmy LaTempa
 Treas.----Martha Passwater
 Aff. Dir.-Robert Moulis
 Directors-Fran Tolleson
 John Graham



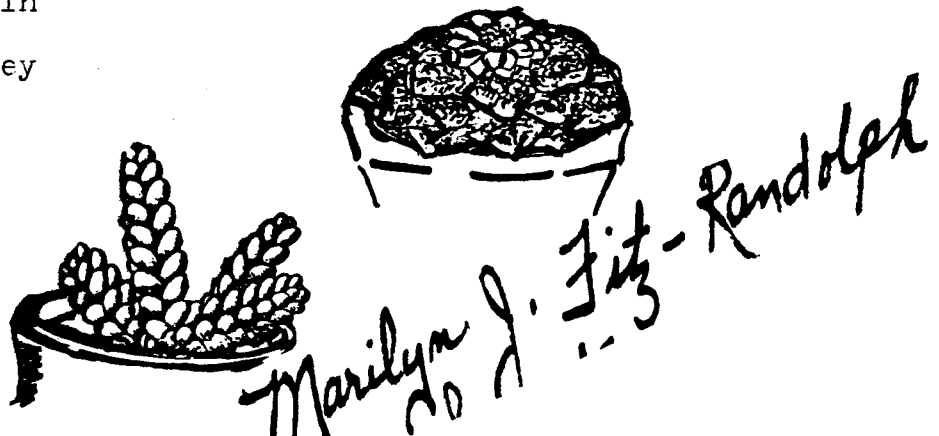
1979

- JAN. No minutes exist for this month but the membership report was 44 active and 18 associate members.
- FEB. Garden Show
- MAR. Field trip to Picacho Peak.
- APRIL At this meeting it was suggested that the members re-institute the use of name tags. (Do you know where yours is?) Tony Burgess and Allen Zimmerman spoke on the cacti of the Chihuahuan Desert.
- MAY Eleven of our members attended the Bi-annual Cactus and Succulent Society Convention in Pasadena. The program was "favorite slides" by members. While it was evident that the Club has some great photographers, it was also evident that the photographers had difficulty in limiting their favorites to a dozen each. I suspect this was a polite way of saying that the program was long.
- JUNE Since the treasury was feeling the "pinch of inflation", the Club held a silent auction this month. The Club netted \$147.55 from the auction.
- JULY New business included re-designing the membership application and the possibility of having basic botany lessons at each meeting. The program was a round table discussion on euphorbias. There were over 100 plants brought by the members and the profusion was said to have awed even Henry Triesler.
- AUG. This was the fastest action on any suggestion so far. Kent Newland gave the first botany lesson on "Vegetative structures of cacti".
- SEPT. Dr. Charles Huckins, the new director of DBG, was introduced to the members. The Club planed to have an exhibit at MetroCenter in Nov. as part of the Men's Garden Club Show. The Fitz-Randolphs showed slides of their trip to Mexico in pursuit of the agave and the botany lesson was "Characteristics of the cactus family".
- OCT. This was an all day outing to Tucson to visit several growers and one private garden. Tanque Verde served cold beer and pop and it must have been while "under the influence" that the members voted to raise the dues.
- NOV. Between this meeting and October several (a bus load) members went to California to visit Huntington's sale and several growers. The minutes also state that at this meeting Bob Pribbinow showed "an expose of our recent trip to Tucson by bus". (Oh yes, I seem to remember that film.) Members volunteered to bake cookies for DBG's Luminaria Night. Botany lesson was "Window succulents" and the program was a slide show on flora and fauna of Arizona given by Bob Moulis.
- DEC. Our Christams party was again held at Emmy Latempa"s house and this year it did not rain.
New officers"
Pres.-----Frank Hennessey
V.Pres.----John Graham
Sec.-----Marilyn Fitz-Randolph
Treas.----Martha Passwater
Aff.Dir.--Bob Moulis
Directors-Fran Tolleson
 Jackson Fitz-Randolph



1980

- JAN. This year started with 45 active members and 18 associates. The name tags were approved and Martha Passwater took orders for them at \$2.50 each. Kent Newland showed slides of his latest trip to Baja.
- FEB. The botany lesson was on aloes. Kent Newland was elected to the I.O.S. Congress. Dr. Huckins spoke on cooperation of the Club and the Garden in the management of the annual plant show.
- MAR. Annual Plant Show...We were well prepared as previously John Graham had shown slides of former shows and Joan Skirvin had demonstrated how to prepare entries.
- APRIL This was trip to the Vulture Peak area near Wickenburg.
- MAY The main thrust of this meeting was to critique the previous Garden Show and to determine the Club's role in future shows. Kent Newland showed slides taken in Mexico where he attended the I.O.S. Congress in March. (Perhaps Kent should become a professional speaker with all his marvelous slides.)
- JUNE The Club voted \$10 to be used to order catalogs advertised in the Cactus and Succulent Journal. Frank Hennessey was to do the letter writing for them. And already the price of the name tags had jumped to \$3.15
- JULY Frank's letters produced 17 catalogs which members could borrow. But the members had more immediate gratification as they bid furiously at the silent auction. Four tables of plants netted the Club \$224.50.
- AUG. Members voted to spend \$100 at the Huntington Sale for plants for our monthly raffles. John Graham spoke on collecting seeds in Arizona.
- SEPT. Mini-botany lessons continued with the topic this month "Dispersal mechanisms in succulent plants." Victor Gass spoke on the DBG and led a walking tour of the grounds and greenhouses.
- OCT. Members were urged to sign up for a trip to Tucson. It was touted as "go on a plant buying spree with people who understand." Dr. Gentry talked about his early years in Mexico.
- NOV. This meeting was held on the bus on the way to Tucson. The members voted to give \$300 to the DBG toward an amplifying system. They also voted to give \$50 to the DBG in memory of Kathy Corbett and to give a Kathy Corbett Award every year at the Garden Show for the best in Mesembs.
- DEC. The annual party was held at the home of Henry Triesler. New officers for the following year:
Pres.-----Margaret Caldwell
V.Pres.----Warner Dodd
Sec.-----Dr. Paul Lundin
Treas.----Jack Taylor
Aff. Dir.-Frank Hennessey
Directors-Bob Pribbenow
Joan Skirvin



It takes a special kind of dedication for a former career military officer and presently an established businessman to accept a place on the Board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, as well as Affiliate Director of our own Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society, to nurture a formidable collection of cacti and euphorbias, and to bring together a distinguished collection of the arts of the religions of the world, as well as to cherish a sleek white parrot that responds to affection.

This only partly describes Triesler's areas of interest.

Triesler was a founding member of the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society, served three terms as its president and was on the Board in 1975. He belongs to the Valley of the Sun Men's Garden Club and is on the Board of the Sonora Desert Museum near Tucson and the Phoenix Botanical Garden. He was president of the DBG for two years and was chairman of the committee that brought Dr. Charles Huckins to the Garden. They were a great team working together. During Huckin's tenure they brought about the American Association of Museums full accreditation to the Garden, making it one of only twelve U. S. botanical gardens so honored. The Garden also became a beneficiary of COMPAS, and Dr. Howard Gentry's book on the "AGAVES OF CONTINENTAL NORTH AMERICA" was published.

Last July Triesler went to California to buy plants and to attend a meeting of the CSSA. A vacancy occurred on the board, Henry was the right man in the right place at the right time and came home appointed a member of the Board for which he intended to run anyway. He will travel to California, usually to Pasadena, to attend meetings at regular intervals.

The National Convention of 1987 to be held in Phoenix presents a big challenge to Triesler. It was he who presented the idea to the membership, and he expects a great convention. It will be one of few held outside of California but he is sure the Phoenix Society can do it. He has already found a good deal of co-operation in the Club with the appointment of chairmanships for special events and believes with more members involved in missions down the road we will emerge a stronger, closer club.

Presently Henry is acting as co-ordinator of convention activities for the Desert Botanical Garden, the Boyce Thompson Southwestern Arboretum and the Desert Sonora Museum. An over-all convention co-ordinator eventually will be selected by officers of the CACCS.

Triesler's absorbing occupation with cactus began about twenty years ago when some neighbors discarded several plants. He salvaged them and these few struggling cast-offs have burgeoned into a collection of over a thousand superbly maintained specimens.

Triesler's favorite plant family is the Euphorbiaceae, especially those species native to South Africa and the East Indies. His collection ranges from compact globular *E. obesa* to the wierd handsome branched tree-like species with angled stems and prominent paired spines, exotic looking things, that highlighted the Desert Botanical Garden's "EUPHORBIA EUPHORIA" exhibit in October 14 to 23, 1983.

One of the jobs Henry finds hardest to deal with in maintaining his huge cactus collection is the constant re-potting of so many specimens that outgrow their pots and must be transferred to a pot one size larger, and then again and again.

Triesler is recognized as a real connoisseur wherever cactophiles gather for his broad experience with cereus, agaves, aloes, haworthias and bromeliads as well as his euphorbias. His extensive private garden houses showcase them all. The ribbons and prizes he carries away from cactus shows further enhance an established reputation.

The following article was submitted to BETWEEN THE SPINES, Central Kansas Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter, and taken from FLORISTS REVIEW, June 30, 1983. It is a small sample of the large amount of plant experimentation and research constantly being conducted.

Courtesy of Elaine Taylor.

A NEW TECHNIQUE FOR GRAFTING CACTI

"Medical discovery helps cacti 'stick' together"

(by N. Zeislin and A. Keren, associates with the department of Ornamental Horticulture of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.)

Grafting is common in the propagation of cacti. This technique is used for a variety of purposes, such as accelerating growth of slow-growing plants, preserving species that do not grow well on their own roots and preserving abnormal forms that are not capable of independent development, such as red cacti without chlorophyll or monstrous cristate forms.

There are several methods of cactus grafting available. All require a good fit of scion and root-stock, along with materials to ensure good contact between them, such as strings, rubber bands, clips, or thorns. And, of course, skillful handling is vital. As a result, it is difficult to graft cacti soon after germination of the root stock and scion species because of the small size of the seedlings.


Several years ago a medical publication about using an adhesive instead of strings for tissue contact in human surgery stimulated the idea of using the same technique in cactus grafting. Subsequently, many types of adhesives based on various chemical components were examined. Most of the glues were unsuccessful, including the very expensive medical one which was donated by an Israeli hospital.

Finally, after three years of effort, an adhesive based on cyanoacrylate as an active ingredient was found to be successful.

Many cactus cultivars and species were grafted by gluing at various stages of stock and scion development, including very small seedlings. Species not previously used as root-stock were tested and found to be very suitable for this purpose. Grafts of a red-colored variety of *Gymnocalycium michanovichi* and various cristates were examined.

Of all the experimental grafts, more than 80% were successful. The glue graftings worked even in winter, unlike conventional methods, which often are successful only during spring and summer.

Improvement of the method by addition of growth substances to stimulate the development of connective tissues to the adhesive, and the use of this grafting technique in various woody species, are now under investigation.


CORRECTION: RE: Listing of Charter Members of the CACSS, December 1973.

Margaret Caldwell's name was inadvertently omitted. Margaret has been a dependable hard worker for the CACSS, serving on the Board from 1973 to 1984. She was always on the Cactus Show committees, helping to set the shows up and taking them down, serving as hostess. She was treasurer of the CACSS in 1978 and president in 1981 and 1982.

