



*Gates Cactus
and
Succulent Society*

JULY 2009

NEXT MEETING: •• WEDNESDAY •• JULY 1st
AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM
I- 10 AT CALIFORNIA STREET IN REDLANDS, CA.

7:30 PM



HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY to GATES SOCIETY

Our July meeting will celebrate 50 years of the existence of the Gates Cactus and Succulent Society. Included with this issue of the Open Gates is a brief history of the first 2 years of the history of the Society. We have similar histories, that were written up through the mid 1970's and we will get them on the web site soon.

We have invited Joe Clements to give a short presentation. Many of us know Joe, who has been intimately involved with the hobby for most of the past 50 years. He was the manager of the Cactus Collection at the Huntington Library for 25 years and has been the Curator of the Arboretum at Pitzer College for the last 10 or so years. He has served on the Board of Directors of the CSSA for many years and has been a member of the San Gabriel Valley C&SS since its inception and has served it's board in many capacities.

We're dragging out all of the old memorabilia we can find and will have stuff on tables around the room for members to look at.

If you purchased one of the 50th Year polo shirts, they will be available at the meeting.

See you all there! *Buck Hemenway*

JULY 2009 MINI-SHOW SUBJECTS

PHOTOGRAPHS 4 MAX, cacti and or succulents,
small, 4 X 6 or Less, LARGE, over 4 X 6

YOUR FAVORITE OR BEST CACTUS OR SUCCULENT, WELL STAGED, 1 EACH

Visit the Gates Cactus & Succulent Society at

www.gatescss.org

MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR JUNE 2009 PORTULACA FAMILY, PORTULACARIA ANACAMPCEROS TALINUM CERAREA AVONIA AND OTHER FAMILY RELATIVES

Karen Roholt and Dennis Kucera judging

NOVICE LARGE, over 6" pot
1st Marie Lyn Thrane Portulacaria afra
variegata 2nd Ann Reynolds Portulacaria
species

INTERMEDIATE small, 6" pot or less
1st Karl D. Osborn Sr. Portulacaria afra
variegata

ADVANCED small, 6" pot or less
1st Buck/Yvonne Avonia quinaria
subspecies alstonii
1st Tony Marino Anacampceros rufasens
2nd Joella Olson Anacampceros
telephiastrum
2nd Joella Olson Ceraria pygmaea
2nd Buck/Yvonne Talinum cafrum

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MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR JUNE 2009 CACTI ECHINOCEREUS

Joella Olson and Dennis Kucera judging

INTERMEDIATE small, 6" pot or less
2nd Karl Osborne Sr. Echinocereus viereckii

INTERMEDIATE LARGE over 6" pot
1st Karl D. Osborn Sr. Echinocereus rubispinus

ADVANCED small, 6" pot or less
1st Tony Marino E. viridiflorus ssp
ciamnus

ADVANCED LARGE over 6" pot
1st Dennis Kucera Echinocereus
engelmannii
2nd Tony Marino Echinocereus stramineus
3rd Dennis Kucera Echinocereus morricallii

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TO ERR IS HUMAN
TO BLAME IT ON THE OTHER PARTY
IS POLITICS

HOSTESS DUTY THIS MONTH.

Helen Hughes and Rachel Watts have graciously accepted the responsibility for the operation of the kitchen and refreshment tables for this Meeting. It is a lot of work so be sure to THANK them.

And we need to THANK **Helen Hughes & Helpers** for working the kitchen during the previous meeting. The great service and the snacking foods were plentiful, Thanks Helen and all the donors.

Calendar of Garden Events - 2009

June 26-28 CSSA Annual Show And Sale –Huntington Botanical. Gardens at 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, Ca. 626-405-2160 or 2277 Plant sales start June 26 thru June 28, The show open on June 27 thru June 28 Free to the public

Aug. 15-16 24th Annual Intercity Show And Sale- Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, Ca. Info Tom Glavich at 626-798-2430

Aug. 29 Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium. All day at the Huntington

Sept. 27 Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, 18127 South Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, CA 12:00 p.m.

Nov. 7-8 San Gabriel Valley Cactus And Succulent Society Show And Sale La County Arboretum Address Above.

Dec. 5-6 Orange County Show And Sale at the Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, Ca 92831

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Never wait until tomorrow to hug someone you could hug today, because when you give one, you get one right back your way!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Our Very Best Birthday Wishes to these members: (Tell us how many!)

7/04	America	(***)
7/12	Gates C&S Society	(50)
7/13	Ed Ramirez	(53)
7/18	Yvonne Hemenway	(60)
7/21	Catherine Pogon	(??)
7/22	Eleanor Grecian	(82)
7/26	Edna Osborn	(??)
7/26	Helen Hibbing	(??)
7/27	Peg Parks	(72)

Look at those seniors, all 50+!

JULY ANNIVERSARIES.

Our congratulations and Best Wishes for the Future to these couples:

7/14	Jacque & Jeff Johnson	(??)
7/25	Karen & Chris Roholt	(27)
7/21	Teresa & Rene Hernandez	(??)



OTHER TABLES

Plant Sales, Display, and Refreshments Tables will be opened for the July 2009 Meeting.

Bring your Show and Tell Stuff, Especially items to bring memories of past good times in our Society. Good pictures will be much appreciated.

If you can, bring some 'Goodies' to support our popular Refreshment Table. Here's a special thank you to those who frequently bring the goodies we enjoy so much. They have been especially plentiful so far this year.



TO JOIN OR PAY DUES

If you wish to join or renew by mail, send your check to:

GCSS % Joe Casey
307 Westwood Lane
Redlands, CA 92373

Include your name, address, phone number, eMail address. Include your birthday and anniversary dates and we will honor you in our newsletter.

If you take our newsletter, the "Open Gates," by PO surface mail, the dues are \$20 Bucks. By email, the dues are \$15 Bucks.

Our Membership runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

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You cannot unsay a cruel word.

- * The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- * Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- * Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- * Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- * Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
- * Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.
- * Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
- * If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
- * Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.

2009 MINI-SHOW PLANTS

JANUARY Aloe, Pilosocereus, Cliestocactus
Cephalocereus

FEBRUARY Crassula, Cotyledon, Tylecodon,
Echinopsis, includes Trichocereus
And Lobivia

MARCH Aeonium. hooked spined
Mammillaria

APRIL Haworthia, Gasteria, Ferocactus,
Echinocactus

MAY Succulents and cacti, crested,
variegated, monstrose or oddball

JUNE Portulacaria, Anacampseros,
Echinocereus..

JULY PHOTOS of cacti and or succulents,
4 each, And Your favorite or best
cactus or succulent, well staged, 1 ea.

AUGUST Dish Gardens and Planters, cactus
and or succulents.

SEPTEMBER Agaves and relatives,
Monotypic Cacti*, - one species per
genus. See list

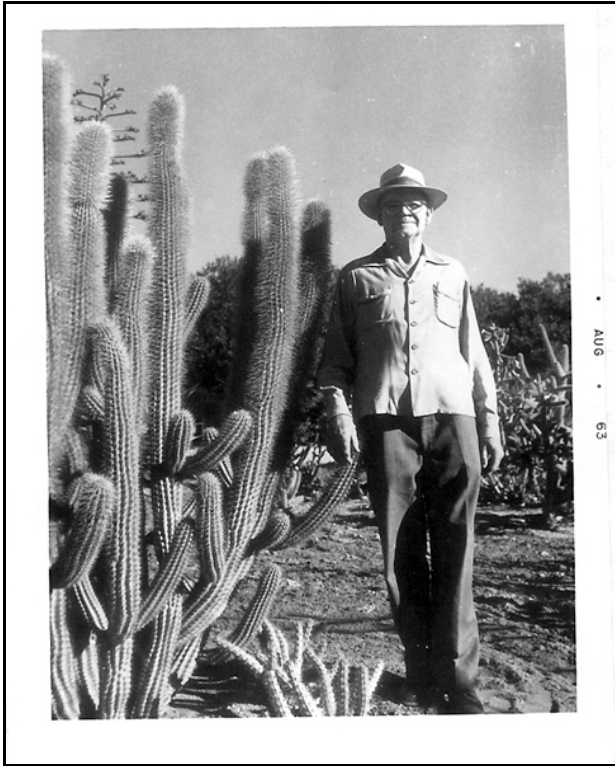
OCTOBER Euphorbia, Opuntia, Dead cactus
or Dead succulent.

*MONOTYPIC GENERA OF CACTI

Bergerocactus emoryi, Blossfeldia liliputana,
Brachycereus nesioticus, Calymmanthium substerile,
Caregia gigantea, Clintia knizei, Denmoza rhodacantha,
Escontria chiotilla, Estopstopsis dybowskii, was
Austrocephalocereus, Geohintonia mexicana,
Isolatocereus dulmortieri, Jasminocereus thouarsii,
Leocereus bahiensis, Leuchenbergia princiisii,
Mammilloidya candida, Mila caespitosa,

Miqueliopuntia miquelii, Obregonia denegrii,
Ortegocactus macdougallii, Rauhocereus riosaniensis
was Browningia riosaniensis, Samaipaticereus
corroanus, Stetsonia coryne,
Strombocactus disciformis, and Yungasocereus
inquisivensis, originally Samaipaticereus inquisivensis.

MEET MR. GATES



March 30, 1930

La Paz, Baja, California Mexico

I have seen the creeping devil cactus creep on the shores of Magdalena Bay, gathered the casa de rata, (rat's house) been struck by the jumping cholla of Comondu and rode by towering cardons until I see spines in my sleep. I have been down to the axel a dozen times in mud, stuck in sand, had to carry my load up grades, bumped over rocks, broke a universal joint in El Arenoso (The Sandy Place) and again on a hill, been through El Purgatorio and down the grade into El Inferno, turned the truck flat on its side, been in perils on the seashore and mountain tops, under overhanging rocks and leaning cardons, between the living rock and deep pits. I have cut off tree limbs and filled up chuck holes and drank water out of ruts in the road, forgotten what a bridge looks like and been sick in the

Mulege but near the end of the road is Le Paz (The Peace) and the trip has been wonderful.

I truly appreciated your courtesy in sending the magazine to La Paz. So far I have been too busy to write stories, but they will come.

EDWARD E. GATES

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Cactus and Succulent Journal, Vol. 1, No. 1

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT HOWARD

By: Patricia Moorten

It is quite fitting and worthy to have this organization established to perpetuate the memory of Howard Elliott Gates in acknowledgment of his dedication and contributions to the horticultural world.

A strange turn of events led Howard into this profession and eventually he became a renowned plantsman – having devoted more than 40 years of his life until he passed away on October 5, 1957.

A native Californian, his parents of modest means raised him near Garden Grove. Upon completing high school Howard joined the National Guard and was sent to Nogales, Arizona to help fight Pancho Villa at the Mexican boarder. After which he continued his studies at the Bible Institute where he met and married Mabel, his wife.

They had one son, Morgan. During the First World War Howard served in the Medical Corps and was stationed near San Diego at Camp Kearney. Upon returning home he took over his mother's nursery and flower business, which she had started in 1904 at Anaheim.

His first action of new management was to dump out some seemingly worthless cactus plants, only to learn soon afterwards that they were choice specimens of rare species. This significant event stimulated his interest in these curious plants. Therefore, as his business grew and expanded to include the

hauling of plants and flowers to the Los Angeles market from all over Southern California for other nurseries, he met many noted horticulturalists and started accompanying plant explorers into Baja, California, Mexico. He soon became greatly interested and was grasping every opportunity to study in this special field.

Always a great reader, Howard would go to any necessary extreme to locate factual botanical data. It was well known that he worked at his desk until late hours every night. He carried on quite an amount of correspondence with botanists all over the world.

In 1939, Howard chose 18 acres in the rolling granite hills of the Norco district near Corona for the ideal location for his cactus-growing farm and shipping business. Then with careful designing and shrewd financing, he created a gigantic commercial enterprise – commanding worldwide fame by producing great quantities of quality cactus and other succulent plants.

Mr. Gates continued his trips of plant explorations spending a total of several years time in Mexico and especially in Baja, California. He wrote extensively for many publications. He discovered several new species and described them technically in scientific journals. Many of these are named in his honor - or he had them named for his colleagues. He received honors or recognition from many botanical societies.

As a dedicated member of the commercial cactus growers associations he heartily supported every worthy project that was of benefit to the profession. He was president of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America and also chairman of that society's conventions.

His nursery, Gates Cactus, Inc., is still in operation under the capable management of Harold Tapia and continues to supply the cactus world market.

Howard Gates was a large man with a humble appearance. He had a twinkle in his eyes and was unusually soft-spoken but could address an auditorium full of people as he conducted meetings or gave programs. He had boundless energy and perpetual enthusiasm and subsequently gained recognized success as a monarch of the cactus empire. He was affectionately called "El Rey de los Chollas" by the people of Baja, California. And for those of us who knew him best, we called him "MR. CACTUS".

THANKS TO:

Mrs. Pat Moorton For her story about
Mr. Gates

Mr. Scott Hazelton For use of the letter Mr.
Gates wrote to him in March of 1930

Mr. Arthur f. Thiede For compiling all information
in this yearbook

Mr. Arthur King For editing and arranging all
information in this yearbook

Dr. George Lindsay For use of the picture of Mr.
Gates

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HISTORY OF THE GATES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

By: Joyce Tate

Part I:

Although there had been a very active Cactus Society in Riverside during the 1930's, the war years had made it impossible for the group to continue to hold regular meetings, great interest in succulents remained, however. Then after the war, Howard E. Gates brought his world famous Nursery from Anaheim to Norco.

Later several other nurseries also established in the Inland Empire, including Rosso's in Redlands, Buttner in Norco and the Desert Nursery in Riverside. Interest in cacti and other succulents revived.

In July 1959, Col. & Mrs. C. Hughes invited succulent enthusiasts to meet at their home in Rialto to discuss the forming of a Cactus & Succulent Society. There was enough interest to do so, and with newspaper publicity, a second meeting was held in September at the home and gardens of Col & Mrs. Herman G. Halverson in Riverside. Both amateur and professional growers attended and a Society was organized. Officers elected were: President, Bill Bently, San Bernardino; Vice-President, Patricia Moorten, Palm Springs; Secretary, Jessie Halverson, Riverside; and Treasurer, Harry Tate, Sunnymead. At this first meeting, Mrs. J. Engberg of Redlands discussed the Plant-of-the-Month, "Kalanchoes". Lynn Brown showed his lapse-in-time color movies, "Blossoming and Fading of Cactus Flowers". It was a good beginning.

The next meeting was held in Redlands, in October, and the most important item on the agenda was appointing a By-Law Committee. Also, equally important, a name was selected – "The Howard E. Gates Memorial Cactus & Succulent Society". The name was chosen in memory of one of the most important plant hunters in Baja California and the Mexican mainland in the 30's and 40's – Howard E. Gates!

In November, we met at the Gates Nursery at the invitation of Mrs. Gates and Harold Tapia, Nursery Manager. In December, we met at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Seymour D. Van Gundy. Mr. Van gave us our first program, "Plant Pests – Nematodes". We ended our year 1959 with the second reading of the By-Laws.

Nineteen sixty saw us becoming 'busier'. Bill Bentley moved to La Puente and consequently resigned as President. Pat Moorten was elected to take his place. The By-Laws were accepted and we now had a purpose: TO STIMULATE AN EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTEREST IN CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENT PLANTS". Our first Garden Tour of the year was in the Spring. We all trooped out to Palm Springs to the Moorten's 'Desertland Gardens". It was a

memorable day. It was raining outside and cold, but we enjoyed ourselves around the big fireplace in the Moorten's living room. For some of us, it had a deeper meaning as we recalled it later; because it was the last time we met with our society Founders.

It was later in June that Bill and Eleanor Hughes lost their lives in the Arizona Desert south of Kingman, a needless tragedy. Soon after that, at one of our meetings, Charley Austin, a member of the Victorville Sheriff's Department, who went with one of the search parties, teamed up with Slim Moorten and John Buttner to give us all a Survival Program. All three were well versed in desert conditions, and we were grateful for the information they gave us.

At a later meeting that year, we became a CSSA Affiliate and we entered an exhibit for the first time. At the San Bernardino County Fair at Victorville, and won a First! Charter membership closed with 48 members. (NOTE: Ten are still members, but only seven attend regularly.) Our Lending Library was started at that time and has always been successful. We voted in our First Life Member-Madame Ganna Walska of Montecito, and we ended the year with 63 members.

Nineteen sixty-one began with Dr. Seymour D. Van Gundy as President. Dr. Edmund C. Jaeger presented his beloved "California Deserts", John Buttner showed us how to "Plant Seed", and gave each one of us a seed kit – soil and all. At the end of this year, certificates were awarded for the best plants from those very seeds.

The most popular speaker of the year was Gil Tagelberg, Sr., who taught us to be "Grafters". We also had Don Skinner for "Crassulas", Harry Johnson, Sr., for "South American Cacti", Dr. Charles Swingle for "Madagascar Succulents", and Virginia Dennison who demonstrated "Use of Succulents in Arrangements". Some of the other members who gave outstanding programs were: Netta Johnson, Dan Gould and Dr. Van Gundy. We chartered a bus and had our first trip

to the home and gardens of Madame Ganna Walska, "Lotusland" in Montecito. So marvelous.

We had our tours to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and Mojave Desert. We had our first exhibition in the National Orange Show in San Bernardino and won First award, which gave us the princely sum of \$100.

We were Sponsors for the Cactus and Succulents Division of the Riverside Community Flower Show, and gave all those who attended a succulent cutting to take home with them. We were certainly popular.

In July, Slim Moorten was our Delegate to the CSSA Convention held in Mexico City. In September, we attended our first CSSA Annual Meeting at the Tagelbergs in Lucerne Valley. For the first time, we heard about Conservation, and took an active part in it. Bill Keyes who owned in-holdings in the Joshua Tree National Monument wanted to build a sub-division on his property. Conservation groups were against it, and immediately took up the challenge, and won. Virginia Dennison represented our Gates Society at the hearings in San Bernardino.

I, Joyce Tate, became the first member of our Society to be on the CSSA Board of Directors and I still remain on it. Later, Ted Hutchison and Art Montague served, and Leo Pickoff is not only a member of the present Board, but he is a Past-President of that body as well. In October, we won the "Award of Merit" at the Riverside Hobby Show, with our "Show Within a Show".

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HISTORY OF THE GATES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

By: Joyce Tate

Part II:

The year 1961, ended with a gala Christmas Party.

Nineteen sixty-two saw Sal Speziale as President. We had our first garden tour to the Bob Taylor's Nursery in El Cajon and another one to Lotusland, we went to Pauma Valley to

see Leona Hall's Garden and Tourmaline mine and then we had our first tour of the Los Angeles State and county Arboretum. Some outstanding speakers for the year were: J. Reece Brown who spoke on Euphorbias; Ted Hutchison on "California Natives" the Cactus Pete's who chose Epiphyllums. Murray Skinner – "Mesembryanthemums", Dr. Lyman Benson – "Deserts" and the Van Gundy's – "Opuntias". Those sliced Prickly Pears were very tasty! We had our first foreign speaker – Bernard Carp, of Capetown, South Africa, who told us about succulents in South Africa.

We voted for Dr. Lyman Bensen and Dr. George Lindsay to be Life Members. We again received first at the National Orange Show and the Riverside Hobby Show. In April we set up a separate Garden Tour of member's gardens in Riverside to bring more attendance at the Riverside Community flower Show, and invited other CSSA and Affiliate members. A group of our members had a plant hunting to Baja, in the Ensenada area. While there, we celebrated Carl Herman's birthday.

We ended the year with our always special Christmas Party, and for the first time we shared with less fortunate people by making 64 small dish gardens for patients at Patten State Hospital.

Nineteen sixty-three was my year as President, and it too, was a great year. We took first at the Orange Show again. We became a member of the Desert Protective council. We enjoyed our first CSSA Convention in the United States in San Diego, with Leo Kroonen, Wilma Van Gundy and I, as Affiliate Delegates. The Herman's invited all of us to their home where Carl's cousin gave us a special program on Sinai and Egypt. One of our most memorable garden tours was Vista, San Marcos and Rancho Santa Fe as guests of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society. We chartered a bus and had a ball! We had a contest and our emblem was chosen, and it was the front piece of our first and only yearbook. The emblem was changed later.

The most important event of the year was the formal dedications of the Howard E. Gates Memorial Garden. It was planted on the grounds of the San Bernardino County Museum at Bloomington and turned over to the Museum officially. We sent invitations to the CSSA Board Members, Affiliate Society members, Museum officials and others.

Honored guests included Dr. Gerald Smith, Museum Director; Dr. Walter Schuiling, Museum Association President; Dr. Edmond C. Jaeger, and perhaps the most important one of all, our Garden Chairman, David Newman, who with his wonderful committee had worked hard to bring the garden to fulfillment.

Plants were from the Gates Nursery and Dave's own garden. Later the large plants were added – *Idria columnaris*, *Pschycereus Pringlei* and *Lophocereus Gatesii*, making it a real outstanding garden.

The Museum became our permanent home. It was wonderful after meeting at a different location each and every month. The year had it's share of excellent programs, interesting and delightful tours and Christmas giving.

In 1965 with Col. Dennison in the VP's seat we had a member Garden Tour for the American Nature Study Society, Western Division, who had a convention at UCR. We also invited other CSSA Affiliate members. We were well represented at CSSA Convention '65 at Phoenix-Tucson and we had a great time there.

With Gates Society backing, I proposed to the CSSA Board that it sponsor Society Shows. The proposal was accepted and we became an underwriter for the First Show held in May. The show was very successful and the money made at the auction and plant sales, along with money made at other event plant sales, has made it possible for CSSA to give grants for scientific research and other projects. Gates Society won a first for Affiliate Displays and received the Murray and Don Skinner Affiliate Trophy. In following years we have won Firsts most of the

time. However, Affiliates no longer have entries in the Shows.

Nineteen sixty-six, with Denny still at the podium, was again a busy year. We had excellent programs (most of them given by fellow-members) on Aloes and Agaves, Epiphyllums, Hylocereanea, Rhipsalis, Fertilizers, Coryphanthanae, Succulents of Baja, California, Opuntias, etc. Ted Hutchison, our program chairman believed that our members were capable of presenting good programs, and so he planned them for the year. He was right. We had a wonderful selection and a wide variety of informational material.

Our favorite tour of the year was to the Vulcan Mine near Kelso, led by Gil Tegelberg. A large group of us enjoyed a never-to-be-forgotten day taking pictures and collecting plants. None of us who were on these famous Mojave Desert tours will ever forget them. We usually had one every year in May, and guided by the Tegelbergs, they were trips to remember always. This was the year that Charlie Glass became the editor of the CSSA Cactus journal.

Nineteen sixty-seven with Art Montague as President, we had a special honored guest at each meeting. Mr. & Mrs. Carl Brassfield, R.H. Diehl, Don & Murray Skinner, Mr. & Mrs. Gil Tegelberg, Sr., Ted Hutchison, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Johnson and Dr. Edmond C. Jaeger. Outstanding programs were given by; Clarissa T. Kimber, - "Long Distance Plant Travellers"; Dr. Robert C. Dickson, "Baja California Cactus Country"; Tad Spinks, "Epiphyllums"; Dr. Burdette White, "The Master's Handiwork"; Dr. Lyman Bensen, "Cacti of the United States and Canada" and Charles Glass, "Succulents of Oaxaco, Mexico.

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WHAT A GREAT BEGINNING FOR THE SPECIAL, WONDERFUL SUPERIOR SOCIETY WE KNOW TODAY.

WE ARE BEHOLDEN TO THOSE IN THE PAST WHO WORKED SO HARD TO BUILD AND LEAVE FOR US THE GATES SOCIETY.