

San Diego

Epi News

Epiphyllum Society

Post Office Box 2852 • San Diego, California 92112

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

10 Feb. 1982 VOL. 6, No. 2

Charles & Alma Haywood
Sieverville, Tennessee

NOW IS THE TIME MARCH-APRIL
...Frank Granatowski

JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting was well attended by almost 200 people and the program was surely a clincher for anyone thinking about joining our society.

Chuck Everson of Rainbow Gardens in La Habra was our speaker, and his slide presentation was both colorful and informative. I know I never tire of epi slides and this program just added another two or three "musts" to my "want list". Some of the slides shown were of *heliocereus* (the most dominant parent of epiphyllums), *apocactus* (exquisite small blooms), and many other outstanding blooms in the Rainbow collection.

Thanks Chuck - already looking forward to your next program.

...Pat Stebbins

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting will be presented by society member and current photographer, Bob Breining. Bob will show slides taken at our '81 Christmas Party, and lots of epis and other slides from the Breining collection. You won't want to miss this one!

FEBRUARY REFRESHMENTS

Those who will be contributing goodies for the February meeting are:

Joyce Bjorkman	Edith Meador
Bev Garber	Jan Rice
Elizabeth Glover	Dorothy Runde
Jean Hapeman	Jean Seile
Mildred Leason	Dorothy Young
	...Penny Bunker

Now is the time:

-to maintain good grooming by removal of dead, spildly, and unsightly branches from your plants.

-to remove dead leaves and debris from containers, thereby eliminating a haven for harmful pests and allowing free flow of oxygen to soil and root system.

-to remove scale residue clinging to outside of containers.

-to repot past years cuttings that have outgrown their present containers.

-to give mature plants a final feeding of Nitrogen-free liquid fertilizer, such as Bloom-Builder, or Hi-Bloom, to promote healthy buds and blooms.

-to utilize control methods to inhibit aphids and ants who are attracted by the nectar from attacking new buds and blooms. Insecticides such as Orthene and Malathion can be used. READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON LABEL CAREFULLY!!

-to remember not to attempt to relocate plants once buds have begun to form.

-to coddle the new seedlings you have developed in past year.

-to bait for snails which become more active with the wet weather. A few granules of SLUGETTA has proven to be very effective when placed at the base of the plants, and it leaves little or no unsightly residue.

-to gather and store rain water for future use. Store in opaque containers to avoid buildup of algae. A few drops of insecticide in the

rain barrel will inhibit wrigglers (larvae) that grow up to be pesky mosquitoes.

Gits and Pieces

HELP! HELP!

Have a blooming size E. Chryso-cardium you can spare? A large flowering size Nopalxochia Phyllanthoides? E. Crenatum? Mature plants are needed for an intensive hybridizing program. Your plant might be the start of an entirely new line of epis. Please contact Helen Barkdoll at the meeting, or phone 469-9165 and we will see what we can work out. Even a fresh flower or two would be a tremendous help just for the pollen. Help save years of time and have a chance to name a new epi.



...from Velma Featherstone, the Editor of the ESA Newsletter -

The Epiphyllum Society of America wishes to extend a cordial invitation to all SDES members to become affiliated with us in addition to your membership in San Diego. There are many members who already belong to both groups. It will help to round out your epiphyllum experience to learn all you can about the plants we grow. Membership in the ESA includes the bi-monthly "Bulletin" and once a year we issue a Directory of members. You will get all the information you need to participate in our activities, like our annual picture show.

We have recently, after years of effort, completed the printing of the ESA Hybrid Listing, a compilation of known Epiphyllums. It consists of 104 pages plus addendums for the years of 1978 through 1981, with all of the newly registered hybrids for those years. The cost is \$7.95, which includes postage. Our dues are \$6.00 a year. Mailing address is P.O. Box 1395, Monrovia, CA 91016

In these dark waters
Drawn up from
My frozen well...
Glittering of Spring

Ringai

PUMICE, ANYONE?

Dick Chadwick was kind enough to get some information for those of you who have tried to find a source for pumice. You can find it at Woodward Organic Products Co., 9925 Riverford Rd., Lakeside. They have it in

1-1/2 cu. ft. Bag @ \$4.50.

They also have all kinds of mixes including cactus blend from \$11 to \$22.00 bag, including kelp. They have Leaf Mold (1-1/2 cu. bag \$4.50) Bone Meal (approx. 1 gal. \$5.00 or 25 lbs. at \$12.00), Blood Meal (approx. 1 gal. \$4.00 or 20 lbs. \$12.00). If you have a friend who would like to split a bag, the larger sizes are quite a good buy.



WANTED: Assistant Librarian - male or female, to help set up library display, check out, and check in library materials during epi meetings. Contact current Librarian for further details.

...Charles Saltzer
422-3854



The charcoal caravan stopped at Hurst's Nursery on their last trip north for charcoal and Dick Chadwick reports that the plants that are on sale (Feb. 13-18) for \$1.00 are an excellent buy. Over 200 varieties to choose from, most of them currently popular plants (Pink Chiffon, etc.) - maybe a carpool of 4-6 people could get you there to take advantage of this super sale?



Following is a list of guidelines approved by the Board for the 1982 Annual Epiphyllum Show on May 9.

FLOWER SHOW EXHIBITORS GUIDELINES

All tables must be reserved prior to May 1 with chairman (Dorothy Breining) or co-chairman (Kathy Van Arum) only. Reservation slip to be signed by exhibitor.

Exhibits to be set up on Saturday night, except for flowers, unless excused by one of the chairmen. The earlier we set up, the sooner we all get away.

No spraying of any substance is permitted in the showroom. This is a park regulation. Any exhibit which is set on the floor must have a protective cover over the floor.

All exhibits should feature flowers. Flowers to be named and labeled. Exhibitors are encouraged to follow the theme of the show on any exhibit of 1/2 table or more.

Exhibits should be completed by 10:00 AM Sunday, so that boxes can be removed and the floor swept before 10:30. Anyone having 6 or less blooms should bring them in before 9:00 AM so that the epi-trees can be finished.

All exhibitors should help in the cleanup of the room after the show. Bring a cloth so that you can wipe off your own table cover. Please pitch in and help as there is a lot to be done.

Remember not to tie up the carts in setting up or dismantling your table. There are others waiting to use them, so empty the carts and return them at once. There are only three carts for all of us.

Placement of tables for the show will be at the discretion of the chairmen; however, every effort will be made to accommodate the exhibitor.

All exhibitors or workers are asked to bring a dish for the potluck at lunch. We will try to have this ready by 10:30. Meat will be furnished by the club. This potluck for exhibitors and workers only. (Editor's note: This is not a sit-down meal, this is to make it convenient for those who will be in Room 101 all day so you won't have to leave the exhibit area to go out to eat.)

A separate copy of these guidelines may be obtained from Dorothy Breining if you need it.

This is the beginning of a quite lengthy article on epiphyllum culture submitted by Chuck Everson of Rainbow Gardens. The article was written by a member of a British Cactus and Succulent Society back in 1967. I think this will be a valuable addition to our hybridizing information.

EPIPHYLLUM HYBRIDS AND THEIR
HYBRIDIZERS...by F. Braun

PART 1

Epiphyllums and their hybrids are to the majority of cacti enthusiasts, poor Cinderellas, relegated to dark corners of the greenhouse except when the plants bear their beautiful blooms. The very word hybrid is a name looked upon with distaste by some collectors of our plants and in fact Epiphyllums are very poorly served by our journals. This article is intended to redress the balance.

The first record of hybridizing Epiphyllums was in 1830 in England when Jenkinson and Smith mentioned numerous crossings. They were quickly followed in 1832 when the gardener of Lord Liverpool and Pressley also carried out some hybridizing with true species.

The Germans then started hybridizing independently and further English crossings were made shortly afterwards by Sedlow, by the gardener of Walter Boyd and by the two brothers called Baumann.

At this time there was considerable interest in these originations because in 1846, Forester and the well known Chelsea firm of Veitch raised many hybrids using the best of the French varieties that had been raised after 1845 by Charles Simon a cactus grower and Lorenzo Courant his client.

In 1890 Johannes Nicolai started hybridizing in Germany but died in 1901, before he had the chance to see the result of his many crossings. He raised nearly 300 varieties and although his brother Woldemar carried on with the work, nearly all the plants were lost during the First World War.

In 1894 George Borneman started a large horticultural business at Blankenberg and by crossing Nicolai's hybrids with the best English varieties he united the English, German and French strains.

Curt Knebel, the greatest German hybridizer, was born on June 16, 1871 and died in 1952 aged 81 years. In 1894, after some distinguished gardening appointments, he started his own nursery at Erlau in Saxony and by acquiring a small number of Nicolai's plants and subsequently some of Borneman's and W.O. Rothers originations, he had, by the First World War, a very good collection of his own hybrids. Virtually the whole collection was lost as a result of the war and he painstakingly started again, evolving over 400 hybrids. During the Second WW, he again lost nearly all his plants but many of his hybrids are still available.

Knebel's name will long be remembered through his lovely hybrids notably Professor Ebert, Stern von Erlau, Augusta von Szombathy, Fredrich Werner Beul, Adolph Hitler (remaned Sherman E. Beahm) and many others. He also managed to raise several notable F.1 and F.2 hybrids thus extending the flowering period of these plants to virtually the whole year.

Knebel's family are also remembered in his hybrids with the varieties Frau Selma Knebel, his wife; Oswald Knebel Jr., his son; Andenken an Bahnmeister (in memory of the Stationsmaster) Knebel, his father; Frau Martha Siepke, his daughter and Frau Emilie Knebel, his mother, and many others.

He also, in his later years, distributed seeds to American hybridizers which were subsequently introduced by R. W. Poindexter and Mrs. Clarion Steele. Some of these are Bagdad, Dolores, Imp, Indoxol, Nellie, Orchid Supreme, Paradise, and Wonderland.

...to be continued.

EPI BLOOM SIZE AND COLOR

This has come up a couple of times and I've been through all the literature I have and this is what I've come up with.

Color description - from everything I have regarding color, the rule of thumb seems to be "predominant color of first glance" (or looking with one eye, while blowing a bubble on night of full moon) just joking of course. The ESA hybrid listing is quite lavish in beautiful color descriptions such as "cerise-pink center, outer brownish-rose" and "opalescent salmon-orange to pale carmine", but this is difficult or impossible to put on a cutting - and anyway, you just want to tell whoever gets the cutting that it's white or red, or whatever and let them furnish their own description when they add it to their list. So -

W - White
R - Red
O - Orange
P - Pink
Y - Yellow

and also, PUR - Purple
LAV - Lavender
and VIO - Violet, and any combination thereof, the first color being the predominant one.
Ex: R-VIO, or W-Y (personally I like to write them YEL or ORG and RED and PNK).

As for size - taken from the ESA hybrid listing, epi bloom size descriptions are:

XS - Extra small (under 2", miniature)

S - Small (2 to 5")

M - Medium (5 to 7")

ML - Medium to Large

L - Large (7 to 9")

XL - Extra Large (10 inches or larger)

(Measure across center of open bloom.)

...Pat Stebbins



CLASSIFIEDS

IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR COPY OF OUR
1982 FLOWERING JUNGLE CACTUS
CATALOGUE!!!

Our brand new 1982 FULL COLOR catalogue will be available at the end of November. Simply send us \$1.00 today (deductible first order) for the catalogue, and we will include our \$3.00 Early Bird Coupon which may be redeemed with any \$13.00 purchase of merchandise from the new catalogue, but which expires February 28, 1982. 1981 customers will automatically receive the 1982 catalogue free of charge. Our new catalogue is as large and colorful as ever with 108 color photos and a host of jungle cacti and shade loving succulents. Epiphyllums: Over 180 varieties of day and night bloomers in a tremendous range of flower colors and sizes. Expanded selection of yellow flowered hybrids... we now offer King's Ransom, Marge Cocke, Jennifer Ann, Frances C., George French and others. Don't forget, we are open by appointment. CALIFORNIA EPI CENTER, Dept. SD82, Box 1431, Vista, CA 92083. (714) 758-4290.

DOLLAR RAMA DAYS

Feb. 13 through Feb. 28th

Never has there been such a sale. For 10 days only, for walk-in customers only, we are selling our rooted cuttings, all of our general stock, while the supply lasts, at the unheard of rock-bottom price of only \$1.00 each. Sale includes plants regularly priced at \$2.50 to \$4.00. Many of them are large enough to bloom in the spring. Please, no dealers. HURST NURSERY, 12059 Lambert Ave., El Monte, CA 91732. If you are looking for something special, call us. (213) 444-5296

HOT OFF THE PRESSES!!

1981 Addendum to "Directory of Epiphyllums" is now available. 18 pages, 662 descriptions. Only \$3.50, +.50¢ postage (Calif. add 6% tax). Make your directory complete and up to date through 1981!

NEW 1982 plant catalog now available. More Eppies, Rhipsalis, Rattails, species Epiphyllums, Nightblooming Cacti than ever before! Only \$1.00 (deductible).

NEW nursery hours: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, seven days a week at 1574 Dorothea Road, La Habra, Calif. Due to the distance involved, a telephone call in advance is advisable to insure we're open (213-697-1488). We've got thousands of potted plants for sale in 3" pots, and over 100 in the 8" pot size. All reasonably priced. Garden books are also available for preview upon request. Credit cards accepted. Bring your camera!!

RAINBOW GARDENS NURSERY/BOOKSHOP
P.O. Box 721 Dept. ESA-SD
La Habra, CA 90631

Published by the San Diego Epiphyllum Society

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 3/1/82

MEMBERSHIP: Jerry Plaisted
(714) 583-9551, 6356 Delbarton St., San Diego, CA 92120

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR ONE YEAR: \$6.00
SINGLE or MEMBER/SPOUSE U.S.A.,
\$12.00 INTERNATIONAL (NOTE: Number in parentheses on mailing label indicates dues month. Please check and keep current.