

## HISTORY OF GATES – PART II

By: Joyce Tate

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 its 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, Hylocereanaea, Rhipsalis, Fertilizers, Coryphanthanaea, 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"; Ta 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, Mexic