formation regarding their culture, I think it would be a great study. We all live in such diverse locations with different climatic conditions (there are members from England, Malta and the U.S.). Is there any way this could be done?” From the same Robin, Anthony Medici in Malta made us all envious by saying: “...a number of my echinocereus plants are in flower and what a show. E. blankii and E. procumbens are absolutely covered in flowers. I have these plants in hanging baskets due to their prostrate nature and the flowers are all erect and blooming. E. procumbens must have at least 30 flowers on one plant. E. davisii, of course, was the first one to flower, followed by E. pulchellus v. sharpii. E. amoenus and E. “aguirrei” are also in flower as are E. pamanesiorum, E. baileyi, and E. knippelianus v. kruegeri. My astrophytums are just starting to flower and so are my lophophoraras (yes they are allowed in Malta—as if I would even think of destroying one to have a “trip” or whatever!!!). My mammillarias are also in full bloom with M. goldii, M. saboae, M. humboldtii, and most others in flower. So it is really nice to be in the greenhouse just now.”

The following excerpt was written in late February by Fluorescent Lights Robin #7 member Paul Burkhard, Ft. Collins, Colorado: “A couple of the winter growing plants are doing fairly well indoors near the glass doors facing out towards the south. My Pachycormus discolor has had leaves for a couple of months now, but the growth is not as evident as it was last year, despite a moderate amount of feeding. I have my euphorbias and most of the seedlings under four 40 W fluorescent bulbs in a back bedroom. I kept most of the euphorbs kind of dry for the months of November through January, and have recently started a regular weekly feeding, watering schedule. My E. milii v. imperatae is now growing nicely, and currently has 10 or so blooms. Most of the other euphorbs are also showing some growth, with emerging cyathia evident on E. milii v. bosseri, the E. ambovombensis and E. de-caryi v. spirosticha. Most of the seedlings under lights seem to be doing fairly well. I have recently had some good growth on E. pauliana and Ancamperos alstonii seedlings and my E. ingens (which just about everyone seems to have in their collection) seedlings are now about four inches tall, six months after germination.”

TEXAS PLANT COLLECTING IN THE 1840’s

German-born Ferdinand Jacob Lindheimer’s (1801–1879) travels through Texas to explore the region’s botanical wonders are of engaging interest to botanists and laymen alike. Karl Ferdinand Roemer (1818–1891) became Lindheimer’s close friend during Roemer’s stay in New Braunfels, Texas. Roemer, a great German geologist, spent 18 months in Texas, and George Englemann commemorated his name in Echinocereus roemeri. Writing in Naturalists of the Frontier, 1948, Samuel Wood Geiser commented: “After leaving Dr. George Engelmann in St. Louis in early March 1843, never to venture north again, Lindheimer arrived in Galveston by the end of the month. Three years later, Ferdinand Roemer left this vivid account of how the naturalist made his collections: ‘He bought a two-wheeled covered cart with a horse, loaded it with a pack of pressing-paper and a supply of the most indispensable provisions, namely flour, coffee, and salt, and then set forth into the wilderness, armed with his rifle and with no other companion than his two hunting dogs, while he occupied himself with collecting and pressing plants. He depended for his subsistence mainly upon hunting, often passing whole months at a time without seeing a human being.’ ”

Larry W. Mitich
CSSA RESEARCH GRANTS

Our Society's program of supporting researchers is becoming better known abroad. The following (translated from the German) appeared in the June, 1993, issue of *Kakteen und andere Sukkulenten*.

**Dollars for Research**

We would like to mention here a most productive function of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America: the CSSA Research Committee. The American cactus society has appointed a committee that each year awards funds for outstanding research on cacti and other succulents. Altogether, $14,000 was given in the past year to eight recipients (individuals and institutions). The awards supported research on Conophytum, Euphorbia, Ferocactus and Sansevieria, bat-pollinated cerei, cacti in Baja California, the investigation of virus infections, as well as the purchase of entire collections. The funds are derived from regular auctions of rare plants as well as from donations from individuals and the CSSA affiliates. This activity is also significant for other societies (including members of the DKG) because anyone who is carrying on important and useful research on cacti and other succulents can apply to the CSSA for financial support. The well-known German mesemb-specialist, Dr. H.E.K. Hartmann, for example, was among last year's recipients. Applications (including required funds) are to be addressed to: Seymour Linden, CSSA Chairman, 1535 Reeves St., Los Angeles, CA 90035, USA; phone 310 556 1923, fax 310 286 9629.

Dr. Thomas Engel

**FERDINAND JACOB LINDHEIMER**

Numerous species of plants have been named for naturalist Ferdinand Jacob Lindheimer (1801–1879). His name along with that of his friend Charles Wright (1811–1885) is irrevocably connected with Texas botany. Lindheimer's collections for George Engelmann and Asa Gray made his contributions of extraordinary value; Engelmann named *Opuntia lindheimeri* for him and commemorated his name in “Cacteae of Plantae Lindheimerianae.” In 1948 Samuel Wood Geiser included this anecdote about Lindheimer in his *Naturalists of the Frontier*. “One acquainted with Lindheimer only in his later years, when his deep blue eyes had lost their fire, his thick black beard had grown snow-white, and his compact, well-knit frame had become the trembling body of an old man, would never have guessed the heroic life he had lived. On exploring the country around New Braunfels, Texas, he had a number of encounters with the Indians. He seems to have had little fear of them, and they molested him not at all. Doubtless when they saw him gathering his plants they considered him a great Medicine Man gathering herbs for his magic brews... Chief Santana, or Santa Ana, of the Comanches, was very friendly to Lindheimer and visited him several times in New Braunfels. On one of these occasions he gazed with approval on Lindheimer's little son Eugene, a bright-eyed lad of two years who was running around without clothes like a Mexican child. The old chief said nothing, but on his next trip to New Braunfels he brought with him two mules and a little Mexican girl, saying, 'You take mules and Mexican, I take boy!' and could hardly understand why the exchange could not be made.”

Larry W. Mitich

**BOOK REVIEW**

*(cont'd from pg. 295)*

sotho”; “Writings” by Daphne Pritchard, a list of Euphorbiaceae articles from the *British Cactus and Succulent Journal*; “An annotated and illustrated checklist of the succulent euphorbias of west tropical Africa” by Leonard E. Newton (remember him?); and Meena Singh again with an account of the “Tuberous-rooted euphorbias of India”; and the prolific Mr. Hargreaves again with “The other spurge of Lesotho (at least allegedly)”. The balance of the book is comprised of the on-going, always beautiful as well as interesting “Photographic collection and descriptions”. At the very end we have biographical sketches of the contributors and the index. There is also included as an insert a cumulative index of the first 8 volumes. As I’ve said before, if you don’t get this book – or you don’t have the other 7 – you can’t call yourself a euphorbia collector! Well, maybe you can – but you can’t call yourself a euphorbia connoisseur!

Charles Glass, CAN TE, A.C.