

THE COYOTE HOWLS

2/27/77

Springtime must be here in the Southeastern Desert, the Daffodills are in full bloom, the peaches are covered with bloom, and the bees and the cactus wrens are busy. The bees are trying to gather pollen and nectar and the cactus wrens seem to be going carefully over the tree picking bloom after bloom to pieces and eating just a little of the flower left so the ground is full of fallen petals. Maybe that can be called nature's thinning, but I wish they would join the other birds and fly away north. We are some two miles away from the regular fly away, but there seems to be plenty of overflow to make the flyaway miles wide.

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Down the street the daisies and other cultivated desert flowers are in full bloom and cars with out of state licenses cruise slowly with their occupants enjoying the color of the Southwest. To them, this is the desert in bloom, but some years the true desert really blooms, when you can drive through miles and miles and miles of desert truly in bloom, with poppies, daisies, lupines, and thistles all forming vast open fields of beautiful color and lucky is the person that can truly say, "I saw the desert in bloom". There are reports that the Javalinas (Havalinas) are working their way down from the hills to roam along the river again. In some cases they have been seen up the big washes probably looking for a chance water hole and a unwary jack or bunny rabbit, and now and then one can see a few quail here in town running across the golf course or down the arroyo. One man close by raised two coveys in a big arborbite last spring but I have seen no parent quail enter it this year, and the road runner cruises both the front walk and the back line daily looking for lizards, and the crows make their daily flight over the town. The last two mornings the temperature has been 28 degrees but so far the inch high tomato plants, and the four inch high beans show no signs of having been hurt, and all the other growing plants are hardy. The days are longer, now at both ends so the angle of the sun's rays is getting straighter and the strength of it's heat is stronger earlier, and the evenings are so beautiful that the TV is hardly used, nature is far more interesting than the boob tube.

One by one, the winter visitors who have found the rock shop so fascinating come to say "Good Bye" for another year with their promise to be back next winter, and others work frantically to complete just another item to take home to give to their loved ones to prove they have acquired skill in artistry while enjoying the west, and the thinning crowds around the pool prove that spring is about to come other places, too. Have a nice spring, you northerners, you sure earned it.

The Desert Coyote and the Beautiful Aloe Plant



Mr. Allan T. Reid, certified paramedic full credential "CPR" was the educational speaker at the MAGCS March 21st meeting at Brookwood C.C. A wonderful meeting - everything just fine.

M.A.G.C.S. April 19th meeting will be held at Mission Hills C.C.