needs of the non-biology major. We are not claiming to have created a "new" course concept but this approach was novel to us and perhaps might be applicable to the teaching situations of other AMCBT members. If others have tried a similar approach and could offer suggestions based on their experience we would appreciate hearing from them.

In Green Thumb Botany we spend approximately one half of our lecture/laboratory sessions on basic botany -- the classical anatomy and morphology of root, stem and leaf, photosynthesis, respiration, transpiration, growth and development, and a survey of the plant kingdom. In these classes and in the remaining portion of the course emphasis is placed on applying the botanical concept to the growth of house plants. For instance, a discussion of transpiration relates to humidity requirements of house plants and watering regimes or a discussion of plant hormones leads naturally into ways of controlling branching of house plants and into the rationale for the suggestion that house plants should be turned once a week. After the plant kingdom is discussed the use of lower plants in terraria or the occurrence of algae in water gardens can be dealt with effectively. The lecture/laboratory sessions on propagation and soils are dependent on the student's awareness of stem structure and hormone action and the relationship between root structure, respiration and the components of soil.

We have found that the presentation of basic botany in such a way that the students can see an immediate application overcomes the reluctance of non-biology majors to study botanical principles. Student acceptance of this approach to teaching botany has been extremely good and there are always more students wanting to enroll than we have facilities for.

BIOLOGIST - Early retiree. Interested in short term (to one year) teaching and development projects. Primary interests in introductory courses. Background strongest in physiology and field studies. John R. Carlock, 3223 East Enos Avenue, Springfield, IL 62702 (c/o Carroll Kemp).

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