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Aging: An Exploration — David P. Barash. "Aging," says the preface, "is a vast topic, a multifaceted jewel which must be seen from many different angles to be appreciated, even if it will never fully be understood." This readable book explores the biological processes of aging, examines the history of aging in America and the social side of growing old and also visits three places in the world where longevity is common. U of Wash Pr, 1983, 240 p., \$14.95.

How Much Is Too Much?: The Effects of Social Drinking — Leonard Gross. The author set out to find "just what 'moderate' drinking was, and how much one could safely drink without forfeiting the social, psychological and even the physiological benefits of alcohol." Here is the evidence, pro and con, so that social drinkers can decide for themselves whether they might be drinking too much and so they can measure the risks of taking a drink. Random, 1983, 160 p., \$10.95.

Not Quite a Miracle: Brain Surgeons and Their Patients on the Frontier of Medicine — Jon Franklin and Alan Doelp. Describes five brain surgery cases, from the development of problems in each of the unaware victims to the thoughts and feelings of the doctors, patients and families before, during and after the operations. Includes graphic, gripping descriptions of the surgery itself. Doubleday, 1983, 274 p., \$16.95.

Plants of the Bible — Michael Zohary. An Israeli botanist explores the natural world of the Bible. Presents a vivid portrait of the Holy Land, its landforms, soils, climate and vegetal landscapes. He goes on to describe the individual plants, gives relevant biblical quotes, discusses each plant's life history and use. Beautiful color photographs illustrate each plant in its natural habitat. Cambridge U Pr, 1983, 223 p., color illus., \$16.95.

The Universe Within: A New Science Explores the Human Mind — Morton Hunt. Cognitive science, a multiple-discipline field, is the systematic inquiry into human thinking. The detailed findings of this new field tell us, says the preface, that the human mind is the latest and most superbly adaptive mutation produced by evolution and that the scientific study of how our minds function should enable us to use them far more effectively than we now do. Written for the general reader, this book reports research in such areas as memory and forgetting, conception formation, logical reasoning, inferential reasoning, and problem solving. Originally published in hardback in 1982. S&S, 1983, 415 p., illus., paper, \$9.95.

Venus — D. M. Hunten, L. Colin, T. M. Donahue and V. I. Moroz. Although the exploration of Venus by spacecraft began in 1962 and has continued, the end of 1978 was a landmark in these efforts: six probes reached the surface, one entered the upper atmosphere and three, an orbiter and two flybys, studied the environment. Much of what was learned from that effort is included in these 30 chapters by 69 collaborating authors. Fourteen of the chapters report Soviet Venus findings. U of Ariz Pr, 1983, 1143 p., illus., \$49.95.

Continued from p. 3

not seen a bluebird since my childhood (in Ohio). When first the male, then the female, appeared in mid-April and took up residence in the "official" bluebird nesting box I had installed at the back of my garden, I was absolutely bowled over. Despite the presence of English sparrows and tree swallows (which had used the box in previous years), my pair succeeded in fledging a healthy brood of four.

Though they failed to return in either 1981 or 1982, these two brave souls have made a lasting impression.

Thanking you for your fine article (SN: 6/11/83, p. 376).

Ralph S. Protsik
Brookline, Mass.

Good article by J. A. Treichel. I would like to know how to get the artificial nesting box Ms. Treichel writes about. Also any instructions on how to behave so that we can attract and keep these beautiful birds?

Ruth C. Sullivan
Huntington, W.V.

Editor's note

The North American Bluebird Society's address is: Box 6295, Silver Spring, Md., 20906, and its phone number is (301) 384-2798. In addition to artificial nesting boxes, the society also sells a book by Lawrence Zeleny called *The Bluebird* — How You Can Help Its Fight for Survival.

Correction: In "Buried fault blamed for Coalinga quake" (SN: 5/21/83, p. 329) movement along the San Andreas was described as "near-vertical." The displacement in fact is horizontal, as ground moves parallel to the fault line.

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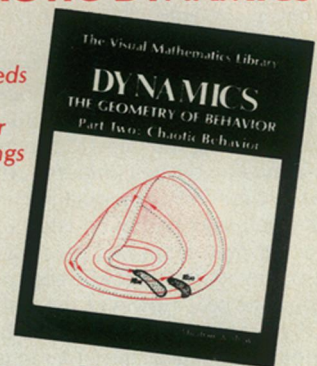
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