

March 2012

Roadrunner News

Newsletter of the Long Beach Cactus Club

Founded 1933; Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

PROGRAM: Tim Harvey is giving a presentation on micro propagation. Technological developments affect and have changed all of our lives, whether we like it or not. One of the more pleasing aspects of this has been a recent surge in the propagation of cacti and succulents through micro-propagation, commonly referred to as tissue culture (TC). Widely applied to food crops and more conventional garden plants in the past, the last five years has seen a surge in the availability of rare species, cultivars and variegated succulents. However, the use of the technique and availability of plants has happened much faster than its understanding by the plant hobbyist. This presentation attempts to bridge that gap, and explain TC so all can understand.

The talk will provide an non-technical overview of the properties of plants that make them amenable to TC, as well as some background as to why plants do what they do in the first place. An overview of practical considerations follows, giving examples of the equipment and materials needed for success. You may even discover a new use for alcohol! Propagation of a diverse set of plants will be presented in detail, with examples coming from a variety of succulent plants. Many of those highlighted may have made their way into your collection via the International Succulent Introductions program. Finally, some perhaps surprising and novel uses of TC will mentioned, together with speculations for future developments. **Tim will be bringing plants for sale to the meeting.**

LOCATION: Dominguez Rancho Adobe, 18127 South Alameda Street, Rancho Dominguez, CA 90220. Take the 91 Redondo Beach/ Artesia Freeway and exit south on Alameda. Signs for the Adobe are posted on the freeway and on Alameda. Coming from the freeway, the entrance to the Adobe is on the right or west side of Alameda. The meeting will be in the Carriage House which is at the south end of the Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum. It is at your right as you turn off the entry road into the parking area.

TIME: Sunday, March 25, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. We will follow this schedule: 1:00 to 1:30 -- setup and refreshments, 1:30 to 3:30 -- general meeting and program, 3:30 to 4:00 – cleanup.

PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH:

Cactus: Neochilenia/Neoporteria
Succulent: Sedum/Pachyphytum

REFRESHMENTS: We will follow the alphabet to determine who is to bring the snacks and finger foods. This month, those with last names starting with the letters **S through Z** are asked to bring the goodies. Please feel free to bring something even if you don't fall into this group.

DOOR PRIZES, BIRTHDAY PLANTS & PLANT SALES: Free plant for first time visitors.

PLANT RAFFLE: Tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. **Members are asked to donate any plants they would like to pass along that they think others would like to buy.** Previous months' raffles have been big successes with several dozen plants available.

LBCC MEETING DATES 2012

	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Mar 25	TimHarvey	Micro Propagation
Apr 22	Greg DeChirico	Peru
May 27	Kelly Griffin	Madagascar
Jun 24	Todd Masilko	Pachycauls
Jul 22	Tom Knapik	Geometric Geophytes
Aug 26	Woody Minnich	Namibia
Sept 23	Annual LBCC Auction at the Adobe	
Oct 28	Doug Dawson	South Africa

Nov 18
Dec ??

Mike Buckner
Holiday Party?

Landscaping with Succulents

**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012
UPDATED 12/14/2011**

- MAR 23 & 24** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SPRING SHOW AND SALE 9am-5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329
- APR 7 & 8** SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE AT SOUTH COAST
BOTANIC GARDENS 26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO. 310-832-2262
- APR 14 & 15** GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- May 5 & 6** SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 6** SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS - INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- MAY 13** HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD
ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 18-19** GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE FRI & SAT 9-4:30 pm
JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER, 7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE
GLEN AVON, CA INFO. 951-360-8802
- MAY 26-27** CENTRAL COAST CASTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW & SALE (10-4PM), LUDWICK CENTER, 864 SANTA ROSA
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – INFO. 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- JUNE 2 & 3** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SUMMER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- JUNE 9-10** LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY PLANT SHOW AND SALE 11th 9-5, 12th
9-3:30 SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD. ENCINO, CA INFO.
E-MAIL LACSS.Contact@gmail.com
- JUNE 29-JULY 1** CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE – HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 29TH THRU JULY 1ST
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 30TH THRU JULY 1ST FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 27-28** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE.
FRIDAY JULY 27TH Noon until 7pm, SATURDAY JULY 28TH 9am to 5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329
- AUG. 11-12** 27th ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THE LA COUNTY ARBORETUM,
9am-5pm daily. 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA.
INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-297-5364
- SEPT. 1** HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 23** LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION
18127 SOUTH ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA----12 PM
- NOV. 3-4** SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- NOV. 9-10** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT WINTER SHOW AND SALE 9am-5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329

Long Beach Cactus Club

Cacti of the Month March 2012 – *Neoporteria* and *Neochilenia*

Neoporteria and *Neochilenia* are genera from the Central and Northern Coasts of Chile, and the Southern Coast of Peru. This area has Mediterranean climate, with rain in the winter, and mostly dry summers. The climate is similar to Southern California, but generally somewhat drier. Fogs are more frequent, and can sometimes be the predominant source of water.



Cultivation of *Neoporteria* is relatively easy. They will do well in pots in Southern California, and require protection only from excessive water and rain in the winter. The *Neoporteria* (*Neochilenia*) *cachy-taensis* shown at right is a two year old seedling. The tuberous root would normally grow between rocks or in a crack in a rock face. The large root is often used as a distinguishing characteristic between *Neochilenia* and *Neoporteria*, but it's not reliable. The root is the primary storage organ, and in dry times the head of the plant will shrivel and sink into the soil. The one significant challenge in growing this genus, and particularly *Neochilenia* is to get growth started in the spring without cracking the body. Growing in a very open potting mix (almost all pumice) helps prevent this.

In habitat these are often solitary, but in cultivation they often clump. Propagation by removal of the offsets is an easy and reliable method of propagation. The offsets quickly form a characteristic tuber. Grafted plants will quickly clump, and these heads can be removed and re-rooted. Seed for many species and localities are available from a number of suppliers, and these generally germinate well and grow strongly.

Figure 1 *Neoporteria cachytaensis*

The genus *Neoporteria* was originally established by Britton and Rose in their classic work, **The Cactaceae** in 1922. The genus name commemorates C. E. Porter, a well known Chilean entomologist. Backeberg created *Neochilenia* in 1942, for plants predominantly from the northern part of the range of *Neoporteria*. He had previously taken other parts of the genus *Neoporteria* and subdivided it into *Islaya*, *Horridocactus*, *Pyrrhocactus*, as well as the now forgotten *Chileorebutia*, *Reicheocactus* and *Theलोcephala*. Finding a reliable distinguishing characteristic between these genera and *Neoporteria* proved impossible, and they have all been lumped into *Neoporteria*. In catalogs, old plant labels, and some seed lists, *Neochilenia* has survived, and the

The genus *Neoporteria* was originally established by Britton and Rose in their classic work, **The**

name survives as a recognizable subgenus of *Neoporteria*. In the 1980s and 1990s, Fred Kattermann and others have taken a closer look at the relationship between *Neoporteria* and another similar genus, *Eriosyce*, and have placed all of *Neoporteria* into *Eriosyce*. *Eriosyce* is the older genus, first described in 1872 by Phillipi, so the name has priority. Work in this area is still going on and is still controversial. DNA studies over the next few years should clarify the name problems considerably.

Interesting Species

Neoporteria (Neochilenia) esmeraldana is a very dark red to brown to black species. It clusters well, and is one of the most beautiful of the darker species. The flowers, as with most of the old *Neochilenia* are striped.

Neoporteria (Neochilenia) jussieui, is another of the smaller dark species, varying from very dark green to nearly black.

Neoporteria nidus is a larger form, often becoming cylindrical with age. It has dense thin spines that form a protective tangle around the body. When well grown this is a very impressive species.

Neoporteria (Neochilenia) occulta completes the rainbow of recommended dark species, (actually all of the old *Neochilenias* are worth growing). This species is a dark yellowish brown to black.

Neoporteria paucicosta has gray spines on a bluish gray, to green gray body. It is slower than many, and inclined to lose roots when over watered, but worth the trouble.

References:

Britton and Rose, **The Cactaceae**
Cullman, Gotz and Groner, **The Encyclopedia of Cacti**
Pilbeam, J., **Cacti for the Connoisseur**
Innes, C. and Glass, C., **Cacti**

Tom Glavich August 2000

Long Beach Cactus Club

Succulent of the Month March 2012 – *Pachyphytum*

Pachyphytum is a genus in the *Crassulaceae* family and is primarily native to Mexico. It is a relative of *Echeveria*, *Dudleya*, and *Sedum*. The *Crassulaceae* family in the Americas is very large, with members in many genera. *Pachyphytum* is very closely related to *Echeveria*, so closely that some feel that it is only a subgenus.

Pachyphytum is primarily a spring grower. They are more or less dormant during the summer, and the dead of winter. They need some water year around, and continue to grow through the summer, although generally very slowly, particularly in August and the hottest days of September. They will drop leaves when heat stressed in the summer. Continued watering will minimize but not eliminate this.

As with many *Crassulaceae*, they eventually get leggy and unsightly, with long bare stems. The plants will grow better, and you will be much happier with the appearance, if the tops are cut off and restarted every spring or two. Late March or April is the ideal time to do this. The plants are beginning to grow well as the warm days of mid spring approach, and rooting will be very rapid. Cuts can be taken and immediately potted. There is no need to wait days for the ends to dry. Use a fairly (not bone) dry potting mix, and keep the cuts in the shade for a few days until the new roots start to form. This minimizes the dropped leaves.

When not in flower, many species of *Pachyphytum* and *Graptopetalum* can be difficult to distinguish. When in flower, *Graptopetalum* have speckled petals. (Sometimes there are a lot of speckles, sometimes very few.) The rest of the genera

in the *Echeverioideae* subfamily do not. In many references you will find the species confused or mixed, or originally described as *Echeveria*.

Pachyphytum have been hybridized with each other, *Graptopetalum*, *Echeveria*, *Sedum*, as well as *Tacitus* and *Thompsonella*, but not with *Dudleya*.

There are many undescribed species, some in cultivation, some not. *Pachyphytum* are under explored and under grown by succulent plant enthusiasts. This is in part because they are so easy to grow quickly (and poorly).

Pachyphytum to Pot

Pachyphytum compactum is a small species, perfectly happy in a one or two inch pot, at home in the *Pachyphytum* or miniature section of any show. When grown well, it looks like a clump of small gray pebbles.

Pachyphytum hookeri shown in the next column is a bigger version. The bright green leaves stand out.

Pachyphytum oviferum is a wonderful white-green, with egg shaped leaves. Easy to grow, as long as you keep water off of the leaves, it is a superb show plant.



Pachyphytum hookeri

References

Urs Eggli, **Crassulaceae**
M. Sajeva and M. Costanzo, **Succulents, The
Illustrated Dictionary**

Tom Glavich January 2004
edited by John Matthews

LBCC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2012

PRESIDENT John Luhnnow 310-922-6090 **SECRETARY(TEMP)** **OPEN**
VICE-PRESIDENT **OPEN** **TREASURER** Jess (Vern) Yandell
DIRECTORS, in alphabetical order, are John & Edwina Caceres, John Luhnnow, Dot Miller and Gary Duke (Past President)

COMMITTEES:

AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE	Hank Warzybok	NEWSLETTER	David Quadhamer
BIRTHDAY/PRIZE PLANTS	Jim Hanna	PROGRAMS	Woody Minnich
GARDEN CURATOR	OPEN	PUBLICITY – LOCAL	Danielle Linden
HISTORIAN	Ken Shaw	PUBLICITY – SHOWS	Peter Walkowiak
INTER-CITY SHOW CHAIRMAN	Peter Walkowiak	REFRESHMENTS	Javier Arroyo
LIBRARY	Ken Shaw	SHOW & TELL TABLE	Carol Causey
MEMBERSHIP	John Luhnnow	SUNSHINE	Dot Miller
WEBMASTER	David Quadhamer		

MEMBERSHIP

SEND APPLICATIONS to John Luhnnow, 3340 West 152nd St. Gardena, CA, 90249. **Dues** are \$15 per year for regular membership, seniors \$10. (Senior membership is for retired persons, 65 and older.) Checks should be made out to **LBCC**.

IF FOUR OR FIVE OR MORE MEMBERS are interested they may order **official Long Beach Cactus Club member badges**. The cost is \$6.50 per person. Please see club treasurer at the meeting.

NEWSLETTER

IF YOU HAVE ANY STORIES, cultivation tips, information about upcoming calendar events or news in general about cacti and succulents that might interest our members, please send them in or give me a call. **Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Remember, this is your newsletter.** The address is: David Quadhamer, P.O. Box 861, San Pedro, CA 90733-0861. Telephone: (310) 833-3095. Email – davidq@lbcss.org

CLARENCE B. WRIGHT MEMORIAL DESERT GARDEN

COME AT **12:00 PM.**, AN HOUR BEFORE THE REGULAR MEETING and help plant, water and maintain our garden. Find out what's blooming each month and get ideas for your home garden.

SPECIAL THANKS to **RANCHO SAN PEDRO** and the **DOMINGUEZ RANCHO ADOBE MUSEUM** for allowing us to use the grounds for our auction and the site for our monthly meetings. We appreciate the pleasant setting as well as being able to meet near our garden.

LIBRARY

WANT TO CONSULT A BOOK ON CACTI AND SUCCULENTS OR A COPY OF THE **CSSA JOURNAL**? Call librarian Ken Shaw at (562) 430-1237 or email at kenlbca@earthlink.net and he will bring the requested items to the next meeting for you to check out.

!!!! We still have several open positions in the club. Get involved and volunteer to take a role in YOUR club!

LBCC PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH RULES

At the April, 2003 meeting, the following rules were adopted for the Plant-of-the-Month (POM) competition:

- A maximum of three plants may be entered in each category (cactus and succulent).
- There will be three classes for entrants: advanced (blue tag), intermediate (pink tag) and beginner (yellow tag).
- Advanced and intermediate entrants must have had the plant in their possession for at least six months, beginners for three months.
- Entrants will receive 8 points for first place, 6 points for second place, 4 points for third place, 2 points for show/honorable mention (HM) and 1 point for showing a plant that does not place.
- At the discretion of the judges there may be up to three third places in a category. If plants are not deemed to be of sufficient quality, no third place will be awarded.
- For an entrant to receive points, the entry tags must be collected by the person in charge of record keeping for POM.
- At the annual Christmas party, award plants will be presented to the ten highest cumulative point holders regardless of class.

2012 LBCC PLANTS-OF-THE-MONTH

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTUS</u>	<u>SUCCULENT</u>
January	Mammillaria	Aeonium
February	Echinocereus	Haworthia/Astroloba
March	Neochilenia/Neoporteria	Sedum/Pachyphytum
April	Astrophytum	Sansevieria
May	Cereus (Columnar Cactus)	Monadenium/Jatropha
June	Opuntias	Adromischus
July	Notocactus/Parodia	Euphorbia African
August	Favorite (3)	Favorite (3)
September		LBCC Auction
October	Lobivia/Echinopsis	Succulent Bromeliads
November	Miniature (3) Under 3"	Miniature (3) Under 3"
December		HOLIDAY PARTY

2012 POM STANDINGS

Advanced		Intermediate		Beginner	
Gary Duke	39	Bob Gillett	68	Jade Neely	49
Ken Shaw	39			Evelyn Maxwell	21
Jim Hanna	32			David Quadhamer	12
Hank Warzbok	11			John Drake	10

Plant-of-the-Month Winners - February

Cactus – Advanced		Succulent – Advanced	
1. Gary Duke	Echinocereus albispinus	1. Jim Hanna	Haworthia truncata
2. Gary Duke	Echinocereus stramineus	2. Jim Hanna	Haworthia maughanii
2. Ken Shaw	Echinocereus fendleri	2. Ken Shaw	Haworthia truncata
3. Ken Shaw	Echinocereus species	2. Hank Warzybok	Astroloba species
		3. Jim Hanna	Haworthia limifolia
		3. Hank Warzybok	Astroloba species

Cactus – Intermediate		Succulent – Intermediate	
1. Bob Gillett	Echinocereus rubispinus	1. Bob Gillett	Haworthia viscosa
2. Bob Gillett	Echinocereus knippelianus	2. Bob Gillett	Haworthia fasciata
3. Bob Gillett	Echinocereus triglochidiatus	3. Bob Gillett	Haworthia viscosa

Cactus – Beginner		Succulent – Beginner	
1. John Drake	E. pectinatus v. rubispinus	1. Jade Neely	Haworthia species
2. Jade Neely	E. rigidissimus v. rubispinus	2. Jade Neely	Haworthia comptoniana
3. Jade Neely	E. viridiflorus ssp. correllii	3. Jade Neely	Haworthia limifolia

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2012 DUES INFORMATION-ONE YEAR

Regular membership \$15.00
Senior Membership (retired person, age 65 or older) \$10.00

Please make out checks to LBCC (Long Beach Cactus Club) and give or send them to the treasurer:

John Luhnnow, 3340 West 152nd St., Gardena, CA 90249

NEW MEMBER : ____ RENEWAL : ____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ ____.** Date: _____

NAME: _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (S): _____

ADDRESS: _____ APT:- _____

CITY: _____ STATE: ____ ZIP CODE: _____ HOME PHONE:(____) ____ - _____

CELL PHONE: (____) ____ - ____ E-MAIL: _____

BIRTHDAY MONTH: _____ FAVORITE CACTI OR SUCCULENT: _____

David Quadhamer
Editor, Roadrunner News
P.O. Box 861
San Pedro, CA 90733-0861

FIRST CLASS PLEASE