

March 2013

Roadrunner News

Newsletter of the Long Beach Cactus Club

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

PROGRAM: Our own Ken Shaw will present a program "Celebrating the 80th Birthday of the Long Beach Cactus Club." Ken's presentation will include highlights and accomplishments of the club, and cake! Special guests, including Woody Minnich, are expected.

We will be working in the garden starting at 11 AM. Bring a lunch if you need to.

LOCATION: Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90815. We will meet in the meeting room next to the gift shop. Rancho Los Alamitos is located within Bixby Hill and accessed through the residential security gate at Anaheim and Palo Verde. From the 405 Freeway, exit at Palo Verde Avenue and turn south. From the 605 Freeway, exit at Willow, follow to Palo Verde and turn south.

TIME: Sunday, March 3, 2013 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: Gymnocalycium
Succulent: Echeveria

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 **G through L** 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 2013

	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
January 6	Steve Martinez	Baja North to Central, Road Kill to Rarity
February 3	Todd Masilko	A Rare Look at Cuba
March 3	Ken Shaw	The History of the LBCC
April 7	Kelly Griffin	A Visit to Australia
May 19	Peter Walkowiak	Stage Your Way to the Trophy Table
June 2	Buck Hemenway	Success with Succulents
July 7	Woody Minnich	Great American Southwest
August 4	Ernesto Sandoval	Plant Hormones
September 29	Auction	
October 6	Tom Glavich	Winter Bulbs
November 3	Gary Duke	Columnar Cacti of Peru
December 15	Holiday Party / POM Awards	

CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2013 (updated 1/2/2013)

- FEB 9TH** **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –WINTER SHOW AND SALE**
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- MAR. 22-24** **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND SALE.** FRI. MAR. 22ND 9am-5pm, SAT. MAR. 23RD 9am-5pm, SUN. 24TH 12-4pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
INFORMATION CALL 562-587-3357
- APR 13 & 14** **SOUTH COAST CACTUS AN SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE**
SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD.,
PALOS VERDES, CA INFO: 310-832-2262
- APR 20 & 21** **GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM**
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- APR 28th** **HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL**
GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 5** **SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm**
SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS
INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- May 4 & 5** **SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 17 & 18** **GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**
32ND 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 25 & 26** **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 1 & 2** **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SUMMER SHOW AND SALE**
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO: 858-382-1797
- JUNE 8 & 9** **LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY**
PLANT SHOW AND SALE 8TH 9-5, 9th 9-3:30
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD.
ENCINO, CA INFO. E-MAIL www.lacss-show.com
- JUNE 15-20** **CSSA 35TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION, AUSTIN, TX- www.CSSA2013.COM**
- JUNE 28-30** **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 28TH THRU JUNE 30TH
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 29TH THRU JUNE 30TH FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 26-28** **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE.** FRI. JULY 26TH 9am-5pm, SAT JULY 27TH 9am-5pm, SUN 28TH 12-4pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
INFORMATION CALL 949-212-8417
- AUG. 17 & 18** **28th 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 7TH** **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM**
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 29TH** **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION**
RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA 90615
INFO: 310-922-6090
- NOV. 2 & 3** **SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 9am-4pm both days**
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.

LBCC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2013

PRESIDENT John Luhnnow 310-922-6090
VICE-PRESIDENT Ken Shaw
SECRETARY(TEMP) **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	Hank Warzybok	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

LIBRARY

WANT TO CONSULT A BOOK ON CACTI AND SUCCULENTS OR A COPY OF THE CSSA JOURNAL? Talk to Hank Warzybok and he will bring the requested items to the next meeting for you to check out.

CSSA CORNER

The 35th Biennial Convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America will be held in Austin TX, from June 15 - 20, 2013. All members of the Society are invited to join in the gathering which will feature world renowned authors and experts in the field of Cacti & Succulents. The web site for the Convention is located at <http://cssa2013.com>.

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.

2013 LBCC PLANTS-OF-THE-MONTH

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTUS</u>	<u>SUCCULENT</u>
January	Echinocactus/Ferocactus	Crassula
February	Rebutia/Sulcorebutia	Gasteria
March	Gymnocalycium	Echeveria
April	Thelocactus/Stenocactus	Aloe
May	Favorite (3)	Favorite (3)
June	Copiapoa	Agaves
July	Mammillaria w/ Hooked Spines	Pachypodium
August	Ariocarpus	Asclepiads
September	LBCC Auction	
October	Melocactus	Lithops/Conophytums
November	Miniature (3) <3">	Miniature (3) <3">
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	
Plant of the Year	Titanopsis calcarea	

2013 POM STANDINGS

Advanced		Intermediate		Beginner	
Ken Shaw	29	Hank Warzybok	11	Jade Neely	36
Gary Duke	18	John Luhnnow	8	John Drake	2

Plant-of-the-Month Winners - January

Cactus – Advanced		Succulent – Advanced	
1. Gary Duke	Ferocactus glaucescens	1. Ken Shaw	Crassula ausensis
2. Ken Shaw	Echinocactus texensis	2. Ken Shaw	Crassula falcata
2. Gary Duke	Echinocactus texensis	3. Ken Shaw	Crassula arborescens undulatifolia
3. Ken Shaw	Ferocactus emoryi		

Cactus – Intermediate		Succulent – Intermediate	
1		1. John Luhnnow	Crassula sp.
2		2. Hank Warzybok	Crassula lactea
3		3. Hank Warzybok	Crassula 'gollum'

Cactus – Beginner		Succulent – Beginner	
1. Jade Neely	Ferocactus hystrix	1. Jade Neely	Crassula marginalis rubra
2. Jade Neely	Ferocactus glaucescens	2. Jade Neely	Crassula perforata
3. Jade Neely	Echinocactus grusonii	3. Jade Neely	Crassula 'gollum'

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

2013 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: _____

Long Beach Cactus Club

Cactus of the Month March 2013 – *Gymnocalycium*



Gymnocalycium horridum

Gymnocalycium are among the most popular of cacti, from the novice through the advanced grower. They are easy to grow; flower readily; come in a large number of distinguishable species; look great in flower, in bud, and even when dormant. A well grown plant will often flower several times during the year.

Gymnocalycium is an old genus, first named in 1845. The genus is named for the naked (spineless) calyx (the outermost covering of the bud and lower flower). Most *Gymnocalycium* are also readily identified by their 'chins' beneath the areoles.

The heart of the genus *Gymnocalycium* is Argentina, although the genus stretches into Southeastern Bolivia, Western Paraguay, Uruguay, and into the southernmost part of Brazil. For the most part *Gymnocalycium* are grassland plants, growing and shaded in the grass of the Pampa and Chaco (dry forest) that covers much of Argentina. As a result, most like some protection from full afternoon sun, but need bright light during the day.



Gymnocalycium tudae

Gymnocalycium cultivation is easy. They need a dry rest during the winter; they can take Southern California climate without winter heat, as long as they are dry. They should be fed regularly with a weak general purpose fertilizer when growing. They are tolerant of any well drained soil, but constant wet will cause the roots to rot. Fortunately, they are easy to re-root, with roots generally re-growing in a just few months.

Gymnocalycium are easy to grow from seed, started in a well drained, damp potting mix in a plastic bag covered pot. Germination is fairly rapid, but growth during the first year is slow compared to most *Mammillaria* and many other genera. Vegetative propagation is also easy. Offsets from clumps can be removed, left to dry for a few days and potted. They generally root within a few weeks.

All the species and all the varieties and forms of *Gymnocalycium* are worth growing.

Great *Gymnos*:

Gymnocalycium baldianum, shown on the previous page, has few spines, clumps readily and grows quickly.



Gymnocalycium buenekeri

Gymnocalycium buenekeri shown above has great flowers, and good, colorful spines. It clumps and is quick to grow.

Gymnocalycium damsii is small clustering species. The stems are brownish green, and heavily marked, with the *Gymnocalycium* chin very evident. It produces bright pink flowers almost continuously during the year.

Gymnocalycium erinaceum is a dark green clustering species. It has short, dense spines, which are dark brown as they leave the gray-white areole, and then fade near the end to the

same color as the areole wool. It makes for a very handsome appearance.

Gymnocalycium friedrichii is sometimes combined with ***G. mihanovichii***, and sometimes kept as a separate species. It is an extremely popular species, and easily grown. The ribs are very prominent, and sharp. The body is a dark reddish brown, banded when young. There are a number of readily distinguished varieties and cultivars available. *G. mihanovichii* tends to be greener. *G. mihanovichii* is the source of the “red caps” seen in many garden centers and plant sales. These are chlorophyll-less and variegated forms, that must be grafted onto a green stock plant.

Gymnocalycium pflanzii, shown on the previous page has short spines. The body color varies from green (in the spring) to shades of purple and brown (during the summer and winter)

Gymnocalycium ragonesi is a well known and readily available species. It stays small, and varies in color from brick red to gray to greenish brown. It is very flat, and in the wild would grow almost completely buried.

References:

Britton and Rose, **The Cactaceae**
Cullman, Gotz and Groner, **The Encyclopedia of Cacti**
Pilbeam, J., **Gymnocalycium, A Collector's Guide**
Preston-Mafham, **Cacti, The Illustrated Dictionary**
Innes, C. and Glass, C., **Cacti**

Tom Glavich March 2007

Echeveria

Echeveria is one the principal members of the succulent New World Crassulaceae, along with *Dudleya*, *Pachyptum*, and *Sedum*. *Echeveria* come principally from the mountains of Eastern Mexico, although there are plants found from Texas into South America. Venezuela has a significant population.

The genus *Echeveria* is named after Atanasio Echeverria, illustrator of a projected Flora Mexicana prepared under the direction of Martin Sesse, from 1789 to 1803. Martin Sesse received a Royal Patent for a botanical expedition to Mexico from Charles III, King of Spain in 1788. Unfortunately, he died shortly after giving the Patent, and before supplying any money. His son, Charles IV, was not enlightened, not particularly bright, and unlucky. Sesse went on with the expedition, and although short of funds, and often sick and hungry, with Jose Mocino, Atanasio Echeverria, and others, collected hundreds of plants over a 15 year period. The three returned to Spain, expecting to become famous and publish their Flora Mexicana, only to be ignored by the King. Greatly disappointed, Sesse returned to his land holdings; Mocino went to work at the Museum of Natural History in Madrid, and Echeverria was hired as an artist's assistant.

Mocino sent the original drawings to the famous botanist Alphonse De Candolle as Napoleon marched on Madrid. The originals were lost in the confusion of the Napoleonic wars, but the drawings were saved by Alphonse De Candolle, who hired 120 draftsman to work for 10 days making several sets of precise tracings of Echeverria's drawings. De Candolle also named the genus in a lecture in 1827, first publishing it in 1928.

Coming from mountainous regions, *Echeveria* prefer well drained soil, and good ventilation. They also prefer cooler temperatures, looking their best in late winter and early spring. The plants swell with the winter rains, and as growth starts the colors become more intense. Although they don't go completely dormant in summer, growth slows, and in the inland valleys, plants tend to wilt and sulk, even with some shade. In California, the best *Echeveria* growers tend to live near the coast, and near San Francisco. In hotter inland areas, *Echeveria* do much better in the ground than they do in pots. Ground temperatures are cooler and less variable than pot temperatures.

Propagation of *Echeverias* is a required skill rather than an optional one. All *Echeverias* have leaves that dry and fall off as they age, leaving a thick, and usually ugly stem. With time, most *Echeverias* offset between the older leaves. These offsets can be removed, the bottom-most leaves of the offset removed, and the stem and remaining leaves planted as soon as the cut stem is dry. Successful rooting almost always follows. The terminal rosette should also be periodically removed and restarted in the same way, with all the dead and the older live leaves removed. The old stem can be kept for awhile, as it frequently offsets from the top or side, and these offsets can be removed as well and propagated. *Echeverias* have flowers on an extended stalk (raceme). The raceme has small leaves on it, and occasionally, rosettes. These will root easily as well.

Favorite species include:

Echeveria agavoides, forms large light green rosettes, with red tips when grown in full sun. Two



Echeveria agavoides

popular cultivars are "Lipstick" which has red edges and "Ebony" which has dark red-purple edge. The colors are enhanced by sunlight. The picture with this article shows the cultivar 'Ebony'

Echeveria ciliata is a smaller species, only three or four inches in diameter. The name comes from the small hairs at the edges of all the leaves. It offsets slowly, but can be easily propagated from leaves.

Echeveria elegans is a smaller species with pale green leaves that makes an excellent bedding plant.

Echeveria potosina is readily available at many garden centers. It makes a wonderful ground cover, offsetting quickly, and recovering from accidental squashes.



Echeveria potosina

Echeveria purpusorum is a small slow growing species from Southern Mexico. It has short stiff white-green leaves, with dark edges and small red spots..

Echeveria have also been hybridized frequently, and many interesting plants are available. One is shown with this article.



Echeveria 'Culibra'

Echeveria 'Culibra' is a particularly contorted hybrid created by Dick Wright of California.

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

FIRST CLASS PLEASE