

March 2003

# Roadrunner News

Newsletter of the Long Beach Cactus Club

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

## 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**PROGRAM:** Jim Hanna, Sharon Thoerner and Carol Wujcik will recount their memories of the club. Historian Laverne Pitzer is preparing a display of pictures from the old days as well as other records and memorabilia. If you have any pictures, literature or other relics from the club's past that you would like to show us, please bring them. Also, please share with us any anecdotes or stories from the club's earlier periods that you might know. This club has a history of which we can be proud. Seeing all that was accomplished in the past (and all the fun members had with our hobby) can inspire us for the future. In coming months we will present aspects of this rich history in these pages:

The **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB** was started on the third Sunday of March, 1933, a week after the great earthquake which did so much damage to the city. It had seventeen members and dues were \$0.50. By June of that year membership had increased to fifty. John Klenke, known as the father of the club, served as president many times during this period. During the early years the club met in homes, the Wilson High School cafeteria, the Belmont Recreation Center and during the war years at the old Chicken Pie Shop on Pine Avenue. In 1942 the Christmas dinner cost \$0.50 per plate. The price of admission was a wrapped gift not to exceed \$0.25 in value.

In 1934, the club started a specimen garden near the casting pool in Recreation Park. It held the first cactus show in Long Beach in 1935 and continued to hold shows until 1987 when the Inter-City Show began. Through the years the club provided displays and information at many locations and events in the Long Beach area including the Lakewood Garden Club, the Dahlia Society and the annual Hobby Show held in the old Long Beach Municipal Auditorium.

**LOCATION:** **Dominguez 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. We will meet in the cafeteria in the northeast of the big building next to the garden.

**TIME:** **Sunday, March 23, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.** Our use of the cafeteria is limited to the hours 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Because of this constraint we will follow this schedule: 1:30 to 2:00 -- setup and refreshments, 2:00 to 4:00 -- general meeting and program, 4:00 to 4:30 -- cleanup.

**PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH:**

**Cactus:** *Melocactus*

**Succulent:** *Aloe*

**REFRESHMENTS:** The club will provide ice cream and birthday cake and beverages. Members do **not** need to bring any food this month.

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

**PLANT RAFFLE:** Special celebration raffle.

**GARDEN WORK PARTY:** **Saturday, March 22, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.** Our garden needs tending. Be prepared to pull up weeds, rake and prune. Bring any clippers, rakes or other tools you might need. The club will provide pizza and soda. Let's make our garden a showcase!!

## LBCC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2003

**PRESIDENT** Hank Warzybok (562) 429-7110      **SECRETARY** Lisa Smith (562) 439-8056  
**VICE-PRESIDENT** Laverne Pitzer (562) 429-3271      **TREASURER** Sandra Fletcher (310) 538-4078

**DIRECTORS**, in alphabetical order, are John & Edwina Caceres, Bob Gillett, Dick Hulett (Past President), and Dot Miller.

### COMMITTEES:

<b>AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE</b>	Lisa Smith	<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	Lisa Smith
<b>BIRTHDAY/PRIZE PLANTS</b>	Jim Hanna	<b>PROGRAMS</b>	Woody Minnich
<b>GARDEN CURATOR</b>	Open	<b>PUBLICITY - LOCAL</b>	Carol Causey
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Laverne Pitzer	<b>PUBLICITY - SHOWS</b>	Dick Hulett
<b>INTER-CITY SHOW CHAIRMAN</b>	Harry Fletcher	<b>REFRESHMENTS</b>	Edwina Caceres
<b>LIBRARY</b>	Carol Causey	<b>SHOW &amp; TELL TABLE</b>	Frances Gillett
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Sandra Fletcher	<b>SUNSHINE</b>	Carol Causey
			Dot Miller

### MEMBERSHIP

SEND APPLICATIONS to Sandra Fletcher, (310) 538-4078, P.O. Box 3366, Gardena, CA 90247-7066. **Dues** are \$10 per year for regular membership, seniors \$7; each associate member (same household) \$2.50 additional. (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 treasurer, Sandra Fletcher, 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: E. Lisa Smith, 2075 E. Appleton St. #24, Long Beach, CA 90803-6205. Telephone: (562) 439-8056.

### CLARENCE B. WRIGHT MEMORIAL DESERT GARDEN

COME AT 12:00 P.M., 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 the **CLARETIAN ORDER** for allowing us to use the grounds of the **DOMINGUEZ SEMINARY** for our auction and the cafeteria for our monthly meetings. We appreciate the pleasant setting as well as being able to meet near our garden.

### CACTUS, WORMS AND CHOCOLATE

Carol Wujcik passed on this January email from member **JERRY KRULIK**, traveler and adventuresome gourmet:

I am in Mexico for about ten days of work. This last weekend I had a number of novel culinary delicacies at a fancy restaurant that serves authentic Mexican and Aztec food.

Our appetizers included stuffed fried cactus pads. They were split in half, filled with cheese, dipped in batter and then fried. The other appetizer was more exotic. We ate maguey worms, the ones you see in bottles of tequila. These are the caterpillars of the moths that live on the blue agave that they use to make tequila. I thought we would just get a few. They gave us a large salsa bowl overflowing with pan-fried caterpillars along with tacos and salad to go with them. Not much taste other than grease on the most fried ones. As we progressed to the less well-cooked ones, they became harder to chew.

The main course was better - chicken with two kinds of mole sauce. It was made with chocolate, spices and up to sixteen kinds of chilis, simmered for hours.

## 2003 PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH RULES

At the November, 1996 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 6 points for first place, 4 points for second place, 2 points for third place 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.

## 2003 LBCC PLANTS-OF-THE-MONTH

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTUS</u>	<u>SUCCULENT</u>
January	<i>Ferocactus</i>	<i>Crassula</i>
February	<i>Rebutia, Sulcorebutia</i>	<i>Aeonium</i>
March	<i>Melocactus</i>	<i>Aloe</i>
April	<i>Gymnocalycium</i>	<i>Haworthia</i>
May	<i>Ariocarpus</i>	<i>Sedum,</i>
June	Favorite Cacti	Favorite Succulent
July	<i>Echinocereus</i>	<i>Gasteria</i>
August	<i>Cereus</i> and other columnars	<i>Echeveria</i>
September	LBCC AUCTION	
October	<i>Mammillaria</i> clusters	Mesembs other than <i>Lithops</i>
November	Miniatures under 3"	Miniatures under 3"
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

## 2003 POM YEAR-TO-DATE STANDINGS THROUGH FEBRUARY

<u>Advanced</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Beginner</u>
1. Fletcher, H.&S. 25	1. Miller 29	1. Crowley 22
2. Hanna 20	2. Warzybok 18	2. Gillett 19
3. Hulett 13	3. Pitzer 15	3. Wagner 18
		4. Jaskulski 13
		5. Larson 6

## FEBRUARY PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH WINNERS

Judge: Larry Grammer

### Cactus - Advanced

1. H. & S. Fletcher *Sulcorebutia steinbachii*  
v. *kinnachii*
2. H. & S. Fletcher *Sulcorebutia swoboda*
2. H. & S. Fletcher *Sulcorebutia kruegeri*

### Cactus - Intermediate

1. Dot Miller *Rebutia* sp.
2. Dot Miller *Rebutia kranziana*
3. Laverne Pitzer *Sulcorebutia verticillacantha*

### Cactus - Beginner

1. Phyllis Jaskulski *Rebutia heliosa*
2. Bob Gillett *Rebutia* sp.
3. Gloria Crowley *Sulcorebutia arenacea*

### Succulent - Advanced

1. H. & S. Fletcher *Aeonium tabulaeforme*
2. Jim Hanna *Aeonium* sp.
2. Jim Hanna *Aeonium* sp.

### Succulent - Intermediate

1. Laverne Pitzer *Aeonium* hybrid
1. Hank Warzybok *Aeonium* 'Kiwi'
2. Dot Miller *Aeonium sedifolium*

### Succulent - Beginner

1. Gloria Crowley *Aeonium* sp.
2. Phyllis Jaskulski *Aeonium arboreum* 'Albovariegatum'
3. Earlean Wagner *Aeonium* "Szamburst" crest

## CSSA Promotional Article (2003 #1)

Anyone who has read these CSSA promotional articles in their affiliate newsletter, even occasionally, is surely well aware of the personal benefits of CSSA membership. I'll reiterate them once more: your own copy of the CSSA journal and newsletter 6 times a year, access to the seed depot (source of seeds of rare cacti and succulents at nominal prices), ability to attend biennial CSSA conventions and CSSA field trips in the USA and abroad, and finally, the opportunity to compete for one of the Herman Schwartz travel grants to visit areas around the globe rich in succulent plants. For the cactophiles among you, Dr. Schwartz has added South America to the list of locales that can be visited.

2003 is, of course, a convention year, so it's a good year to be a CSSA member, a necessity if you are planning to attend the convention. The St. Louis venue is, of course, conveniently located in the center of the country, which should appeal particularly to midwestern and east coast members. My Fall 2002 promotional article focused on the array of excellent speakers the organizers have lined up and on the array of sites and activities available in the St. Louis area for the families of cactophiles. Attendance at a convention is, of course, good for renewing old friendships and initiating new ones. Also, significant additions to your plant collections and libraries are possible for those patronizing the sales area and participating in the rare plant auction. Proceeds from the latter benefit the CSSA research fund, a truly worthy cause. **The St. Louis convention (June 14-19, 2003) features two days of programs focused on succulents, a field trip day and two days devoted to cacti.** Daily, as well as weekly, registration is available, so those with limited time can focus on their favorite plants. The middle field trip day features three day-time trips, one to the world famous Missouri Botanical Garden Herbarium and Library, one to Forest Park, 1904 World's Fair Art Museum, Zoo and Jewel Box Conservatory, and one to the Cass Bonsai Garden. In the evening there will be a river boat cruise with dinner and a live Dixieland jazz band. Additional updates on convention activities can be found in the CSSA newsletter, *To the Point* and on the CSSA website (<http://www.cssainc.org/convent.html>).

**In connection with the St. Louis Convention, there will be a pre-convention tour for CSSA members to the four corners area of New Mexico, Colorado and Utah.** The tour departs St. Louis for Albuquerque on June 7<sup>th</sup> and returns to St. Louis on June 14<sup>th</sup> in plenty of time for the mixer opening the convention. The tour will afford an opportunity to see and photograph many unusual winter-hardy cacti of the genera *Echinocereus*, *Escobaria*, *Mammillaria*, *Pediocactus*, and *Sclerocactus*, etc., in habitat. The trip will also include a visit to Mesa Garden, the well-known cactus and succulent nursery in Belen, NM. Dave Ferguson will be the botanical guide. More information on the trip can be found in the Nov. - Dec. issue and subsequent issues of *To the Point* and on the CSSA website <http://www.cssainc.org/tripscom/tripscomhome.html>.

**In this article I'd like to focus on what the CSSA does to benefit affiliate societies and what affiliate societies in turn can do for CSSA.** In enumerating some of the benefits CSSA provides affiliates, I'm drawing from a list prepared by Norma Lewis, well-known in the Los Angeles area as the Crassula Lady. Thanks, Norma! Through the journal and newsletter, the CSSA provides information of all sorts from descriptions of new succulent plant species to articles on cultivation to announcements of affiliate societies' special events, shows, and sales, etc. By organizing biennial conventions, the CSSA brings the affiliates together and provides outstanding speakers from around the world. We also can arrange for foreign speakers traveling the country to offer programs to local societies. Through our research grant program we support research efforts, which can ultimately benefit hobbyists in a variety of ways. One such way is the ISI plant introduction program which offers members new plants with documentation for their collections. The Seed Depot also provides members with plant material for their collections. We also offer an advertising outlet for succulent plant nurseries and book sellers, and provide a number of plant, book, and pottery dealers at each convention. We keep affiliates aware of conservation issues and laws and regulations affecting our hobby. We have a certification program for succulent plant judges and can provide judges for affiliate judged shows. The CSSA maintains a slide library that provides programs for affiliates at nominal cost.

In turn, affiliates can offer benefits to the CSSA. Affiliates can contribute money to the research fund, thus enhancing our ability to provide research grants, or to the journal color fund, which improves the quality and attractiveness of the journal. A number of affiliates make such contributions on a regular basis. Affiliate members can write articles for the journal or the newsletter and, indeed, are encouraged to do so. **Clearly, however, the most important contribution each affiliate society can provide the CSSA is to increase the number of your members who are also members of CSSA.** We've always suspected that the percentage of affiliate members who are also members of CSSA is quite low. Actual data from 11 of 78 US affiliates, a small sample size, shows a considerable range from a high of 77% (congratulations Kentucky C & SS) to a low of 4%. The second and third highest percentages go to Atlanta C & S Club (67%) and South Coast C & SS (57%). **The more members CSSA has, the more we can do for affiliates and individual members, so we all would benefit from increased CSSA membership.** We hope that affiliate officers across the country will give serious consideration to the issue of increasing the percentage of affiliate members who are also CSSA members. Any suggestions would be appreciated by the membership committee.

Hope to see you at the convention!

Bob Barth, Publicity Chair,  
CSSA Board of Directors

## MICHAEL VASSAR

We have enjoyed having Michael Vassar as our speaker many times talking on bulbs, Pelargoniums and Oxalis. We received this message from Carol Wujcik:

DATE: Thur 27 Feb 2003 15:17:52 EST

Dear C&S Folks,

Sad news this morning by phone.

Michael Vassar passed away last night after a protracted illness. He was in his home with loved ones present. Huntington Botanical Gardens where he worked, is planning a memorial in the future. For more information you may contact Claire Martin at [cmartin@huntington.org](mailto:cmartin@huntington.org).

## HOYA CLAN GATHERING

You are invited to a Hoya Clan Gathering to welcome **DALE KLOPPENBURG**, author, **TED GREEN**, explorer, and **MICHAEL KARTUZ**, nursery owner and member of the National Hoya Society. This event will held at Norma Lewis' home on Saturday, June 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Light snacks and cold drinks will served at 2:00. Because this is a garden party you are asked to bring a chair. Please RSVP at [Crasulady2@earthlink.net](mailto:Crasulady2@earthlink.net) or call Norma at (818) 763-0048 or 980-6134 for directions.

## Long Beach Cactus Club Membership Application

2003 DUES INFORMATION -- ONE YEAR:

Regular Membership	\$ 10.00
Senior Membership (retired person, age 65 or older)	7.00
Associate (same household)	2.50

Please make out checks to LBCC (Long Beach Cactus Club) and give or send them to Treasurer, Sandra Fletcher, P.O. Box 3366, Gardena, CA 90247-7066

Renew or join on or before the Holiday Party to receive a free plant as a thank you from the club. These will be distributed at the party or in January.

NEW MEMBER  RENEWAL  TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ASSOCIATE MEMBER(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDAY MONTH: \_\_\_\_\_ TWO MOST FAVORITE CACTI OR SUCCULENTS: \_\_\_\_\_



# CACTUS and SUCCULENT SHOW and SALE



**SAT. & SUN. APRIL 12 & 13, 2003, 9am to 4pm**  
**SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
**26300 CRENSHAW BLVD. PALOS VERDES PENINSULA**

**SEE outstanding displays by selected growers!**

**VOTE for the best!**

**ASK experts how they grow their plants!**

**BUY plants from top growers!**

For more information contact Dick Hulett at 310-832-2262 (E-mail [airobatic@aol.com](mailto:airobatic@aol.com));  
Carol Causey at 310-675-5843; Jim Hanna at 562-920-3046 or [aloecats1@aol.com](mailto:aloecats1@aol.com).

**DIRECTIONS:** From I 10, take 405 south to Crenshaw, go south on Crenshaw  
or take 110 south to Pacific Coast Hwy., go west to Crenshaw and turn left.

**A SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT  
SOCIETY PRESENTATION**