

February 2024

ROADRUNNER NEWS

Newsletter of the Long Beach Cactus Club
Founded 1933; Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

PRESENTATION: *Tylecodons for the Collector* by Dylan Hannon

Tylecodon is a genus of succulent plants within the Crassulaceae family known for their striking appearance. Native to Southern Africa, Tylecodon usually have fleshy leaves and a caudex (a swollen stem or base) to help them store water and survive in arid environments. These low-maintenance plants come in a diverse array of shapes, sizes, leaf colors, and growth patterns, making them popular choices for succulent enthusiasts and collectors.

Dylan Hannon was raised in Southern California, where he developed an early interest in a wide range of plant groups. Both his mother and grandmother helped nurture an avid appreciation of plants. He has worked for over 25 years in the botanical garden field, starting as a research assistant to Dr. Thomas B. Croat at Missouri Botanical Garden, working on the taxonomy of Araceae (aroids). He spent nine years as Plant Propagator at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, CA, and has been Curator of Conservatory Collections at The Huntington Botanical Gardens since 2003. In between these posts Dylan worked in the wholesale cactus industry and for consulting firms as a field botanist in the San Diego area. His main interest is the propagation and distribution of cultivated plants, particularly material of known wild origin. These themes run through Dylan's writing, lectures and plant collecting. He is blessed to have his supportive wife Antoinette by his side.



Cactus of the Month: Astrophytum

Astrophytum is a distinctive and captivating genus of cacti known for its unique appearance and relatively easy cultivation. Native to the arid regions of North America, specifically Mexico and parts of the southwestern United States, Astrophytum species are well-adapted to thrive in desert environments.

Astrophytum cacti are typically found in rocky or sandy soils of desert regions, often in areas with high temperatures and low precipitation. Their natural habitat is characterized by arid conditions, intense sunlight, and well-draining soils.

When cultivating Astrophytum, it's essential to mimic their natural habitat as closely as possible. Provide well-draining soil to prevent waterlogging, as these cacti are susceptible to root rot. Full sunlight is crucial for their growth, so place them in a sunny location, preferably receiving direct sunlight for several hours each day. While they can tolerate high temperatures, it's important to protect them from extreme heat and frost.



The visual variability of Astrophytum species has led to its popularity for clones, cultivars and hybrids. A great source on hybrids and cultivars is "THE NEVER ENDING STORY OF ASTROPHYTUM HYBRIDS" (Vol 1 & 2) by Roman Pavlica and "JAPANESE HYBRID ASTROPHYTUM" by Roman Pavlica, Sumihiro Saeki.

Succulent of the Month: Aloe

Aloe is a diverse and widely recognized succulent genus known for its distinctive rosette-forming leaves and various medicinal and ornamental species. The genus belongs to the family Asphodelaceae and is primarily native to arid and semi-arid regions of Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, and some parts of Madagascar.

Aloes are naturally found in a range of habitats, from deserts to mountainous regions, and are particularly abundant in South Africa. They thrive in well-draining, sandy soils, often growing in rocky or volcanic terrain. Aloe species have adapted to arid climates, characterized by periods of drought interspersed with occasional rainfall.

Aloe species readily hybridize, leading to the creation of cultivars with unique characteristics. Hybridization allows for the development of plants with enhanced traits, such as vibrant colors, compact growth habits, and resistance to specific environmental conditions.



(We also include Aloidendron and Aloiampeles, which were recently split from Aloe.)

LBCC PLANT-OF-THE-MONTHS 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.

Long Beach Cactus Club 2024 Plants of the Months

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTI</u>	<u>SUCCULENTS</u>
February	Astrophytum	Aloe
March	Neoporteria/Neochilenia	Aeonium
April	Echinocactus/Ferocactus	Echeveria
May	CLUB SALE	
June	Rebutia/Sulcorebutia	Bromeliaceae
July	Opuntia/Tephrocactus	Pchypodium
August	Favorites (3)	Favorites (3)
September	AUCTION	
October	Thelocactus/Stenocactus	Cotyledon/Tylecodon
November	Miniatures (3) - pots under 3"	Miniatures (3) - pots under 3"
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

2024 POM MINI-SHOW STANDINGS

Advanced		Intermediate		Beginner	
Gary Duke	29	Richard Salcedo	17	Gretchen Lewotsky	18
Maria Capaldo	15	Henry Angulo	10	Derrick Cantú	12
Krystoff Przykucki	4	Amy Angulo	8	Christian Navarro	8
		ScottBunnell	4	Kelly Eddy	7
		Andrew Lander	2	Dam	7
		Lemono Lott	2	Shirley Kost	3
				Cole James	2
				Randy Stiver	2
				Erika Villalobos	1
				Tom's Bonsia Cacti	1



The Long Beach Cactus Club

Est. 1933

Meeting Highlights:

- Monthly programs led by plant experts from around the world
- Mini shows each month with different categories of cacti & succulents
- Vendors selling plants, pots, tools, and more
- Monthly raffles
- Advice from members for plant identification and care

Meeting Information:

1st Sunday of each month

1:00 pm

Woman's Club of Bellflower 9402 Oak St, Bellflower, CA

Member Sign Up

\$20.00 per year, per membership

\$10.00 for engraved name badge (optional)

Cash or Check - Made out to the Long Beach Cactus Club

Membership year: _____ Amount paid: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address (for mailing purposes): _____

Phone number: _____

SNACK AND REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>LAST NAME STARTS WITH</u>
February	C, D
March	E, F, G
April	H, I, J
May	Show & Sale
June	K, L, M
July	N, O
August	P, Q, R
September	Auction
October	S, T, U, V
November	W, X, Y, Z
December	Holiday Party

LBCC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2024

PRESIDENT	Nelson Hernandez	SECRETARY	Kelly Eddy
VICE-PRESIDENT	William Ramirez	TREASURER	Henry Angulo
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	Daniel Almanza, Christopher Bucka, Scott Bunell, Lemono Lott, Alfonso Molina		
CSSA LIAISON	M. A. Bjarkman	NEWSLETTER	Andrew Lander
VENDORS	Lupe Casas	PROGRAMS	Nelson Hernandez
MEMBERSHIP	Lawrence Hofman	HISTORIAN	Ken Shaw
INTER-CITY SHOW	Henry Angulo & Scott Bunell	MINI-SHOW	<i>Open</i>
LIBRARIAN	William Ramirez	X-MAS PARTY	<i>Open</i>
PHOTOGRAPHER	Dereck Diaz	REFRESHMENTS	Erika Villalobos
MAY SALE	Henry Angulo	AUCTION	Gretchen Lewotsky
INSTAGRAM	Scott Bunnell & Nelson Hernandez	WEBSITE	German Rivera & Scott Bunnell

NEWSLETTER

IF YOU HAVE ANY STORIES, cultivation tips, information about upcoming events, photos, corrections, or news in general about cacti and succulents that might interest our members, **please send them in**. **Comments and suggestions are always welcome**. Remember, *this is your newsletter*. Physical address: Andrew Lander, 3041 Roxanne Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808. Cyber address: landruc@gmail.com