

March 2024

ROADRUNNER NEWS

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



Echinocereus dasyacanthus, rare red flowered form photo by Woody Minnich

PRESENTATION: “Texas to Tamaulipas” – Wendell S. “Woody” Minnich

For cacti, there is no richer region in the world than that of the Mexico’s Sierra Madre Oriental. From Texas south into Mexico, through the states of Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas and San Luis Potosi, the diversity of cacti is overwhelming. On this trip we will visit many breathtaking regions and explore some of the new and remote areas where many of the most prized and exciting new species have been found.

As most Cactophiles are aware, southwestern Texas is known for its Big Bend National Park. From Marathon, Texas, down to the border along the Rio Grande, the plethora of cacti that occur in this area is amazing. This belt represents the northern beginnings of the Chihuahuan desert environments. It is here in the deciduous thorn forest low lands, to the foothills of the Sierra Madre Oriental, that the cacti and other succulents become particularly dense. The conditions that make this one of the best areas for succulents are the dry warm western temperatures coming from Chihuahua and Coahuila, and the powerful moist storms that are generated from the Gulf of Mexico. These storms usually come to these environments during the summer months, thus making it a perfect place for cacti and other succulents to thrive.

In this presentation, we will start with the northern Chihuahuan desert cacti and succulents that occur in Texas and often migrate across the border into Mexico. These genera include: *Agave*, *Ariocarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Coryphantha*, *Echeveria*, *Echinocactus*, *Echinocereus*, *Echinomastus*, *Epithelantha*, *Escobaria*, *Ferocactus*, *Hamatocactus*, *Lophophora*, *Mammillaria*, *Neolloydia*, *Thelocactus* and *Yucca*. From northern Mexico we then zig-zag our way into the Monterrey expanse, and from there, we will head further south crossing the Sierra Madre Oriental in a back and forth pattern from the east to the west. We will conclude our southern journey once we hit the northern reaches of San Luis Potosi. The plants that occur in this extensive territory include: *Agave*, *Ancistrocactus*, *Ariocarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Aztekium*, *Coryphantha*, *Echeveria*, *Echinocactus*, *Echinocereus*, *Echinomastus*, *Epithelantha*, *Escobaria*, *Ferocactus*, *Geohintonia*, *Gymnocactus*, *Hamatocactus*, *Hectia*, *Jatropha*, *Lophophora*, *Mammillaria*, *Manfredia*, *Neolloydia*, *Obregonia*, *Pelecephora*, *Peniocereus*, *Sedum*, *Thelocactus*, *Turbinicarpus*, *Wilcoxia* and *Yucca*. Our principal focus will be to see some of the new *Gymnocactus* and *Turbinicarpus*, as well as a few of the rare and not often seen other genera and species.



If you have never had the opportunity to travel into these fascinating regions, this is your chance to get a first hand viewing of how and where many of these awesome plants grow.



Ariocarpus fissuratus in the back country of Big Bend, TX, photo by Woody Minnich

Announcements:

Plant of the Month Chair

We are looking for a new chair to lead our Plant of the Month Mini-Show competition.

Duties include: setting up POM tables, judging entries with our guest speaker & other seasoned members, give a brief introduction on the genus and present the winners.

If you feel you can fill this position please reach out to Nelson at our next meeting or send an email to longbeachcactusclub1@gmail.com

LBCC Desert Campout in the Anza Borrego Desert, March 15-17, 2024



Spring is the perfect time to visit the desert. Come join us for a campout in the Anza Borrego Desert, which is in the Colorado Desert section of the Sonoran Desert. Bring your own food and camping supplies for a great weekend in the desert. We will camp on the McNair property next to Anza Borrego State Park. Water and a bathroom are available there. We can accommodate tents, small trailers or vehicle camping. It is approximately a 3 ½ hour drive from Long Beach.

Here are some plants that we will be sure to see: *Cylindropuntia bigelovii*, *C. acanthocarpa*, *Mammillaria dioca*, *Ferocactus cylindraceus*, *Opuntia basilaris*, *Fouquieria splendens* and *Agave deserti*. We may also see some wildflowers. The days will be in the 70-80's and the night in the 50-60's. During the day, we will check out the desert and in the evening we will have a potluck dinner and camp fire.

Those signing up will receive more detailed information on what to bring and driving directions.

Email: kathymcnair@dslextreme.com

Cactus of the Month: Eriosyce

The taxonomy of Eriosyce has undergone revisions, and various synonyms have been associated with the genus. For our mini-show we will accept the following:

Neoporteria, *Neochilena*, *Chilenia*, *Horridocactus*, *Islaya*, *Pyrrhocactus*, *Thelocephala*.

Eriosyce is a genus of succulent cacti native to South America, primarily found in Chile and parts of Argentina. Known for their diverse and often intricate forms, Eriosyce cacti inhabit a range of habitats, from coastal plains to mountainous regions, in arid and semi-arid environments. These cacti have adapted to well-draining soils, experiencing a Mediterranean climate characterized by mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers.

Conditions of Habitat:

Temperature: Eriosyce are adapted to a variety of temperatures, enduring hot conditions but also requiring protection from extreme heat. They may experience cooler temperatures in their native habitat, especially during the winter months.

Sunlight: Eriosyce species thrive in full sun to partial shade. They are well-acquainted with bright sunlight and require ample light for optimal growth and flowering.



Eriosyce subgibbosa

Javier Conejeros Gastó



Eriosyce fankhauseri
Stefan Burger

Soil: Well-draining soil is crucial for Eriosyce cacti. They are adapted to environments where water drains quickly, preventing waterlogging that could lead to root issues.

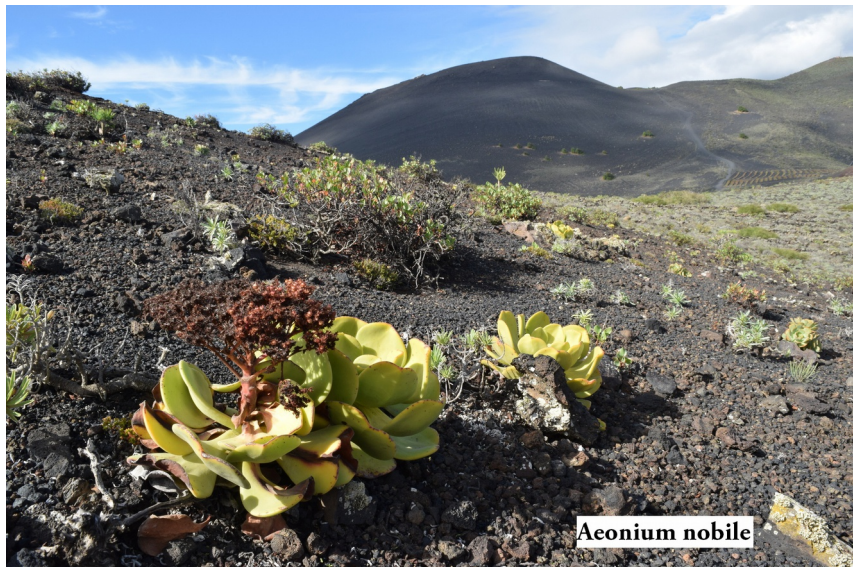
Light: Provide a sunny location, either in full sun or partial shade, depending on the species. A south-facing exposure is often suitable for Eriosyce cacti.

Watering: Allow the soil to dry out between waterings. Eriosyce cacti are adapted to drought conditions and prefer infrequent but deep watering.

Container Growing: If growing in containers, ensure the pots have drainage holes. Container gardening allows for better control of soil conditions, especially in regions with variable weather.

Succulent of the Month: Aeonium

Aeonium is a captivating genus of succulent plants known for its rosette-shaped, fleshy leaves and striking architectural forms. Native to the Canary Islands, Madeira, and North Africa, Aeoniums are appreciated for their diverse species and visually appealing growth patterns. In their native habitat, these succulents thrive in coastal and mountainous regions, often growing on rocky outcrops and cliffs. They are adapted to mild, Mediterranean-like climates with cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers.



Many Aeonium species are monocarpic, meaning they flower, set seed, and then die. The rosette that produces flowers is referred to as the "hen," while the plant that flowers and dies is called the "chick." The monocarpic nature of some Aeoniums is an interesting aspect of their life cycle. After flowering, the plant's energy is redirected towards seed production, and the original rosette typically withers and dies. However, new offsets or "chicks" often emerge around the base of the flowering rosette, ensuring the continuity of the plant.

Cultivation Conditions: Growing Aeoniums in cultivation requires providing conditions similar to their natural habitat. Here are some essential tips:

Well-Draining Soil: Aeoniums prefer well-draining soil. Use a cactus or succulent mix with added perlite or sand to ensure proper drainage.



Light: Provide bright, indirect sunlight for most Aeonium species. While they can tolerate some direct sun, protection from intense afternoon sunlight is advisable, especially in hotter climates.

Temperature: Aeoniums thrive in mild temperatures. They can tolerate occasional cool weather but may suffer damage from frost. Protect them from freezing temperatures, and provide adequate ventilation to prevent heat stress.

Watering: Allow the soil to dry out between waterings. Aeoniums are drought-tolerant but appreciate regular water during their growing season (typically fall to spring). Reduce watering in summer when they are dormant.

Container Growing: Aeoniums can be grown in containers, allowing for better control of soil conditions and mobility. Ensure the pots have drainage holes to prevent waterlogging.

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>
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>
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



Mammillaria luethyi, in habitat in Coahuila, Mexico, photo by Woody Minnich