

January 2025

# ROADRUNNER NEWS

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



Photo by Andrew Lander

**Presentation:** Antonio Avendaño: *Endemic Agaves of Oaxaca and their flavor profiles as Agave spirits*

Antonio Avendaño is a co-owner of Tepanal Ancestral, a family project deeply rooted in the rich tradition of crafting agave spirits. Established to preserve and defend a heritage passed down through generations, Tepanal Ancestral is committed to ensuring that every bottle carries the identity, history, and ancestral knowledge of their community.



The name "Tepanal" originates from the Nahuatl word for "hill of honeycombs," reflecting the deep connection to Santa María Tepanaltepec and its cultural legacy. Antonio joined the project in 2019 after meeting Rafael Garcia, a renowned Maestro Palenquero, and his son Jair Garcia through family friends. With their mentorship, Antonio began planting agave in Oaxaca and later married Rafael's daughter, Wendy, strengthening the family ties behind this endeavor.



## Succulents of the Month

### Agaves

Agaves are rosette-forming succulents with thick, fleshy leaves that often end in a sharp spine. The leaves may have serrated or smooth edges, and some species are adorned with striking patterns or marginal spines. Most agaves are monocarpic, meaning they flower once (after several years or even decades), producing a tall flowering stalk before dying.

Agaves are native to Mexico and the southwestern United States, with some species extending into Central and South America and the Caribbean.

Agaves are highly drought-tolerant and thrive in arid to semi-arid climates. They are adapted to hot, dry conditions with seasonal rainfall, often growing in rocky or sandy soils. Agaves can withstand extreme heat and sunlight, though they may also grow in partially shaded areas.

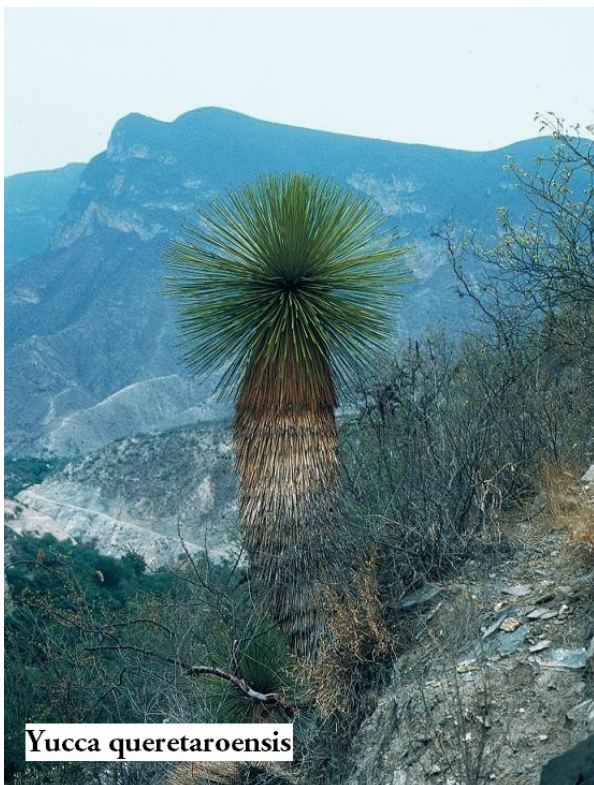


### Yucca

Yuccas are perennial shrubs or trees with stiff, sword-like leaves arranged in a rosette. Unlike agaves, yuccas are generally not monocarpic and can bloom multiple times. Their flowers are bell-shaped and grow on tall stalks, typically white or cream-colored. Some species develop woody trunks, while others remain low-growing.

Yuccas are native to North and Central America, particularly the southwestern United States, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

Yuccas thrive in arid and semi-arid climates, often in desert or grassland habitats. They are adapted to hot, dry conditions and poor soils, with some species capable of tolerating freezing temperatures. Yuccas prefer well-drained soils and are remarkably drought-resistant, making them iconic plants of desert landscapes.





## Cacti of the Month

### **Echinocereus**

Echinocereus are native to the southwestern United States, northern Mexico, and parts of Central America. They are usually small to medium-sized cacti with cylindrical stems, often clustering to form dense clumps. They are known for their striking flowers, which come in vibrant shades of pink, red, orange, yellow, and purple. Many species have spiny stems that provide protection and aid in water conservation.

They thrive in arid and semi-arid climates with hot summers and mild winters. These cacti are adapted to desert and rocky habitats, tolerating high temperatures and intense sunlight. They prefer well-draining soils and can survive with minimal rainfall, often relying on seasonal rain events.



**Echinocereus triglochidiatus ssp. triglochidiatus**

**Pilar Schmidt**

## 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 2025 Plants of the Months

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTI</u>	<u>SUCCULENTS</u>
January	Echinocereus	Agave / Yucca
February	Copiapoa / Eriosyc / Islaya	Gasteria / Haworthia
March	Corypantha / Escobaria	Senecio / Othonna
April	Variegated cacti	Variegated succulents
May	CLUB SALE	
June	Hybrids & cultivars	Cultivars & hybrids
July	Melocactus / Discocactus	Fockea / Ficus / Ipomoea
August	Favorites (3)	Favorites (3)
September	Grafted cacti	Grafted succulents
October	AUCTION	
November	Miniatures (3) under 3 inches	Miniatures (3) under 3 inches
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

## 2025 POM MINI-SHOW STANDINGS

<b>Advanced</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Beginner</b>



# 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>
January	A, B, C
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	S, T, U, V
October	Auction
November	W, X, Y, Z
December	Holiday Party

## LBCC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2025

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](mailto:landruc@gmail.com)