

C A C T U S CHRONICLE

N O V E M B E R 2 0 2 3

VOL. 91 ISSUE 11

MONTHLY PROGRAM

DYLAN HANNON

Tylecodons for
the Collector



ARID PLANTS A-Z

ELI COHEN

Remember to bring in
your problem plants, plant ID
+ special interest plants



**REFRESHMENTS
THIS MONTH:
LAST NAMES
BEGINNING WITH
'B' AND 'V'**

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

MEETING START TIME: 7PM, DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM

ONE GENERATION: 18255 VICTORY BLVD. RESEDA CA.

Refreshments!

A warm "HELLO" to LACSS members! We have seen an increase in attendance at our monthly meetings after bringing back refreshments. Since most of our members (excluding retirees) come straight from work, it is nice to have a snack while enjoying the LACSS meeting.

It is a collective effort and responsibility each month to supply our members with sustenance, **THIS BRINGS US TO THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AND THE ALPHABET ASSIGNMENT IS FOR THE MONTH IS LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH LETTERS "B & V"**

If your last name begins with that letter, please bring something to share, enough for approximately 10 people. If you'd like to bring more that is okay too.

To facilitate set-up and clean-up, we ask that your contribution be in individual portions and/or a disposable container. At the end of the meeting, all leftovers, including containers, will be discarded. If you are available to help set up or tear down the refreshment center, please see me at the meeting at the Refreshment Table.

If you are unable to contribute, the club will also have a jar/bowl at the refreshment table if you would like to donate money so that the club can continue to supplement refreshments brought by the attendees.

Nov - Members whose last name begins with "B, V"

Jan - Members whose last name begins with "O, R"

LACSS ONE DAY PLANT SALE

**MORE DETAILS
TO COME!**

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 3RD
9AM - 2PM
PLANT & POTTERY VENDORS
11 AM LIVE AUCTION

**18255 VICTORY BLVD
RESEDA, CA 91335**

LOS ANGELES CACTUS
& SUCCULENT SOCIETY



TYLECODONS

FOR THE COLLECTOR

**THIS MONTH'S
PROGRAM**



Tylecodon is a genus of succulent plants known for their unique and often visually striking appearance. These plants are native to southern Africa and belong to the Crassulaceae family, which includes other well-known succulents. Tylecodon species typically have thick, fleshy leaves and a caudex, a swollen stem or base, which allows them to store water and survive in arid environments. With a wide range of species, Tylecodon offers a diverse array of shapes, sizes, and leaf colors, making them popular choices for succulent enthusiasts and collectors. These plants are admired for their low maintenance requirements and intriguing growth patterns, making them a fascinating addition to any succulent collection.



T H I S
M O N T H ' S
S P E A K E R

DYLAN HAMMON



Dylan 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.

FROM THE MESSAGE PRESIDENT

Warm fall greetings to everyone,

Remember in January when we wondered how we would fill our time for the entire year?? And now here we are almost at the end of the year. Let us review for a moment - at best count: ten monthly meetings, five workshops, three Board meetings, volunteer/participate in at least 5 other club's show/sales events, plus the Intercity and CSSA Show and Sale and some even attended the CSSA Convention in Colorado Springs. In addition, we participated in several yard clean-ups and Dig-it-Yourself fun times. Didn't we also plant some C&S at the ONEGeneration's new addition? Just a normal (is there such a thing???) year for the cactus and succulent world.....

We have two more events to produce before the year is over. The first is the Holiday Sale to be held at the Reseda ONEGeneration. See the announcement and details elsewhere in this Chronicle. The second is our Annual Holiday Awards Dinner, also to be held at the Reseda ONEGeneration. There are still some details to work out but this is going to be a fantastic, fun time. Auctions, bingo, awards and good food!! See announcement and details elsewhere in this Chronicle.

We will need a few volunteers for each of the above events and will have some sign-up sheets at the November 2 meeting.

I would also like to recognize again all the members who have donated books, plants, pots, time, energy, creative talents and more to the club. It is you who make LACSS the success it is. Thanks a bunch to all of you!!

See you soon.

Joyce



Holiday
**AWARDS
BANQUET**

**LOS ANGELES
CACTUS AND
SUCCULENT SOCIETY**



DEC | **16th** | 2023

**DOORS OPEN AT 5PM
APPETIZERS AND CACTUS BINGO
6PM CATERED DINNER PROVIDED BY CLUB
POTLUCK DESSERTS
BRING A SPECIAL DESSERT TO SHARE**

**18255 VICTORY BLVD.
RSVP BY DEC. 3RD
LACSS.CONTACT@GMAIL.COM
AWARDS - PRIZES - AUCTION -
RAFFLE**

OF BOARD DIRECTORS

2 0 2 3

LACSS MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society (LACSS) cultivates the study & enjoyment of cacti & succulent plants through educational programs & activities that promote the hobby within a community of fellow enthusiasts & among the greater public.

CO PRESIDENTS

Artie Chavez + Joyce Schumann

PAST PRESIDENT

Kim Thorpe Chavez

1ST VP, PROGRAMS

Ron Behar

2ND VP, PLANT OF THE MONTH

Manny Rivera

3RD VP, EDUCATION

Cande Friedman

SECRETARY

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Nick Steinhardt

DIRECTOR 1 MEMBERSHIP

Kelsey Osterman

DIRECTOR 2 SPECIAL EVENTS

Jim Esterle

CACTUS CHRONICLE EDITOR

Kimberly Gomez-Tong
newsletter@lacactus.com

MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Angela Clubb + Nikki Bova

CSSA LIAISON

Roxie Esterle

SALE + FESTIVAL CHAIR

Kimberly Gomez-Tong

INTER-CITY REPRESENTATIVES

Manny Rivera
with Artie Chavez + Kimberly Gomez-Tong

MONTHLY DRAWING

Al Mindel

PLANT PROCUREMENT

Collin O'Callaghan

HISTORIAN

Sandy Chase

AWARDS DINNER CHAIR

Vacant

LIBRARIAN

Joyce Schumann

POM PLANT DESCRIPTIONS

Kyle Williams

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Kim Thorpe Chavez
Kate Eplboim
Kimberly Gomez-Tong



2023

JANUARY

Matucana, Submatucana, Oroya
Aeonium

FEBRUARY

Coryphantha, Neolloydia, Neobesseyia
Sarcocaulon

MARCH

Echinocactus
Anacampseros, Avonia, Grahamia

APRIL

Aztekium, Epithelantha
Aloinopsis, Antimima, Aptenia,
and Argroderma

MAY

Cacti staged as miniature
Succulent staged as miniature
(Diameter of pot
NO LARGER THAN 3")

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Melocactus
Euphorbia Medusoid

AUGUST

Mammillaria (Dichotomous & 2 Heads)
Gasteria, Astroloba

SEPTEMBER

Cacti from Coahuila
Nolina, Calibanus, Beaucarnea

OCTOBER

Espostoa
Fouquieria

NOVEMBER

Crest and Monstrose

DECEMBER

Holiday Awards Party

2024

JANUARY

Blossfeldia, Yavia
Dudleya, Cotyledon

FEBRUARY

Mammillaria Hook Spine
Cheiridopsis, Dinteranthus

MARCH

Copiapoa
Tulista, Astroloba, Trachyandra

APRIL

Cacti of Baja California
Succulents of Baja California Mex

MAY

Cacti staged as miniature
Succulent staged as miniature
(Diameter of pot
NO LARGER THAN 3")

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Opuntia North America
Jatropha, Pedilanthus

AUGUST

Neochilenia, Neoporteria
Commiphora, Boswellia

SEPTEMBER

Ariocarpus
Fockea, Ipomoea

OCTOBER

Trichocereus
Hoya, Ceropegia, Dischidia

NOVEMBER

Variegated

DECEMBER

Holiday Awards Party

PLANT OF THE MONTH

CRESTED + MONSTROSE

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S

Crested and Monstrose plants are deformed versions of otherwise normal plants caused by abnormal growth. Specifically, they exhibit deformed growth caused by the growing points (called meristems) of the plants forming new tissue in an improper manner. The exact nature of the deformed growth separates crested plants from monstrose ones. While most often seen, and coveted in cacti and other succulents, crested and monstrose growth can occur in any kind of plant.

Normal plant growth takes place at a single point at the tip of each branch or stem called the apical meristem. The apical meristem produces new cells that go on to form the rest of the plant, but the meristem itself remains a single cell. This growth from a single point is why stems are generally round and regular in shape. The apical meristem also suppresses the growth of dormant meristems along the stem, especially those closest to the tip.

Crested plants (also known as fasciation) are distinctive in that they grow in a linear or wavy shape. This growth can be so unusual that it can be hard to tell that a crest and normal form of a species are really the same thing! This growth form results from a mutation in the apical meristem where instead of remaining a single cell it starts forming many new apical meristems all in a horizontal row. This means that instead of one apical meristem controlling growth, you have dozens if not hundreds all trying to produce new growth at the same time. This growth could be considered regular irregularity in that line of meristems is abnormal, but they grow in an organized fashion giving us the beautiful and strange crests we grow.

Monstrose growth also results from meristems going haywire. In this case the apical meristem can no longer control and suppress the dormant lateral meristems, so they all start growing. That creates a malformed, often overly-branched, plant that looks strange to some and fascinating to others.

Several factors are known to cause plants to crest or go monstrose. Sometimes a random mutation causes this. Usually this mutation is not passed on to any seeds it produces. It can also occur from a hormonal imbalance in the plant. External factors include certain fungal or bacterial infestations, or even environmental damage.



Euphorbia lactea crest



Mammillaria geminispinosa crest



Cereus peruvianus crest



Austrocylindropuntia subulata crest

P L A N T O F T H E M O N T H

CRESTED + MONSTROSE

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S



Dasyliirion crest

Crested and monstrose plants are grown exactly as normal plants of the same species. Some have weak roots, and only grow well as grafts. However, others are robust growers, and do perfectly well on their own. Careful observation of the health of the plant, and comparison to healthy normal growth plants of the same species will quickly show whether grafting is necessary. You can also research your plant online or by asking other growers to find out the special needs of your particular crest or monstrose. These plants tend to be more sensitive to poor growing conditions, getting sunburn quicker, and getting unsightly brown spots more easily than normal plants of the same species. They tend to be more attractive to spider mites and mealy bugs than normal plants, and a careful eye must be kept on them to keep good growth.

In most cases, Crests and Monstrose plants flower and produce seed, just as other plants do, but less often. Good strong growth is probably the best way to produce a flowering crest. Crests and Monstrosity are not generally transmitted by seed; however, seed from a genetic mutant plant (i.e. not from pathogens or environmental factors) is much more likely to be a genetic mutant than that from a normal plant. The genetic mutation is more likely to be the same as the parent, but

any other mutation is also possible.

The most common method of propagation of crested plants is vegetative. Cuttings of crests are often grafted to speed growth and to preserve special growth forms. Cuttings of varieties that are on their own roots will generally root easily, as long as the cuts are taken during the growing season. After a few days drying, the cut sections are simply stuck into slightly moist potting soil. After a few weeks, there will be sufficient roots to resume normal watering.



Lithops monstrose



Crested Daisy flower



Saturday Educational Program Report

WHACK! CHOP! SPLIT!

With Rob Roy MacGregor, by Cande Friedman

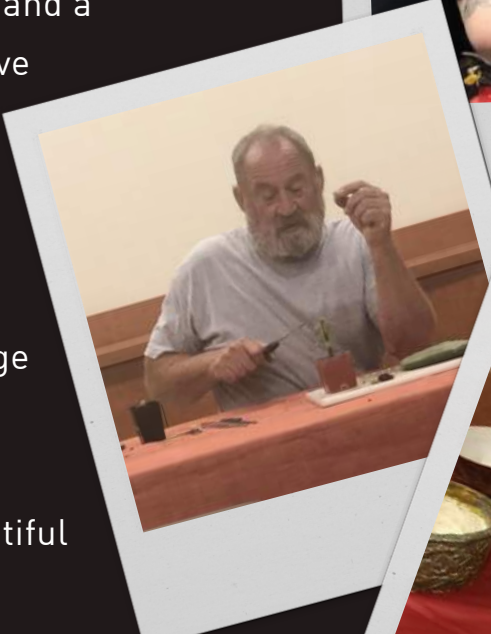
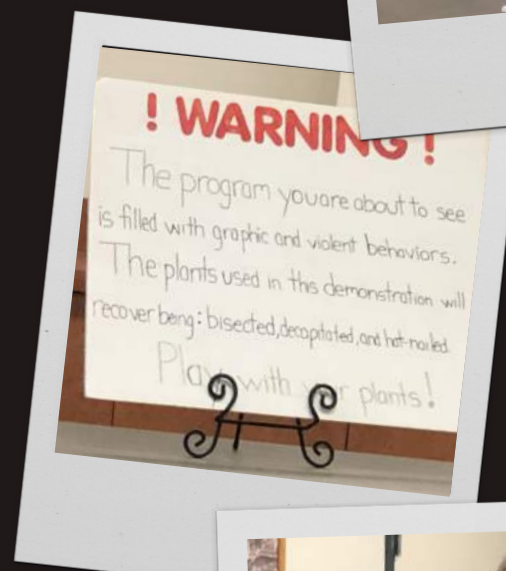
Sounds like something you would read in a super hero comic book! But those are all things Rob Roy MacGregor suggests we do to our plants when we play with them. We don't always get a chance to see someone who is such an expert at propagation. That's why it's such a great opportunity to see Rob in action!

Not only did Rob discuss propagation with his amazing hot nail method, as well as chopping a White Rhino agave in quarters, he explained the mysteries of grafting that allude a lot of us! Rob discussed what kind of cactus to graft to, matching the meristems root stock to scion, different manners of attaching the graft, and a method of degrafting cactus! He even gave away cactus (party favors) that he used in his demonstration to our group. Who knew propagation could be so fun!

Thank you Rob for sharing your knowledge with us!

Bonnie Ikamura also donated some beautiful pots for our raffle.

Thanks again Bonnie!



2024 MEMBERSHIP?

RENEW BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2023 TO SECURE 2023 RATES

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP – \$20 ANNUALLY
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP – \$25 ANNUALLY

AS OF JANUARY 1, 2024, NEW RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP –
\$25 FLAT RATE

2 PEOPLE PER HOUSEHOLD PER SPECIAL EVENT
(FIELD TRIPS, DINNERS)

THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO RENEW:

ONLINE VIA PAYPAL

[CLICK HERE TO PAY VIA PAYPAL](#)

CHECK VIA MAIL

[CLICK HERE TO PRINT AN APPLICATION](#)

OR IN-PERSON AT THE NEXT MEETING!

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU IN 2024



South Coast
Cactus & Succulent Society

STEVE FRIEZE

"OAXACA, MEXICO"

Steven Frieze has been involved with collection, sales and propagation of cacti and succulents for over thirty years. He and his wife started Distinctive Flora, a plant business that specializes in exotic plants; including cacti and succulents. He has made several plant related expeditions to exotic locals and will focus his talk on Oaxaca Mexico.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

1:00 PM

South Coast Botanic Garden,
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes
Peninsula 90274.

Free admission for SCCSS members and
their guests. For more information visit
southcoastcss.org





BLACK FRIDAY SALE

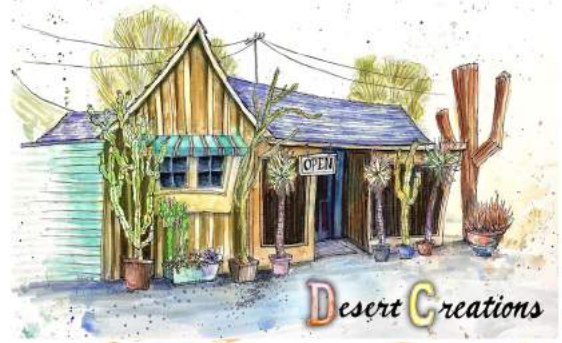
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2023 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- NOV 3 - 5 HUNTINGTON FALL PLANT SALE - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED SAT-SUN
10AM-5PM INFO. RESERVATIONS- WWW.HUNTINGTON.ORG
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD RD., SAN MARINO, CA
- DEC 3 LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY HOLIDAY POP UP SALE
DETAILS TBD