



# CACTUS CHRONICLE



## 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.

### THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER:

# SEAN DEAN GILDENHUIJS



Born in October 1983 (Pretoria) and grew up in the town Mbombela (previously Nelspruit), situated in the north-eastern part of the country. It is here in my childhood that I developed a keen interest in plants and nature as a whole. In 2002 I returned to Pretoria where I studied horticulture and got my degree. I have been involved with the Succulent Society of South Africa and has been involved with Gariep Plants and Kambroo Plants nurseries for the past 14 years. I have a wide interest in plants ranging from succulents to tropical plants, but grow mainly succulent plants for the local and export market. Botanically I am interested in members of the Aloaceae family and has given several presentations on the subject in South Africa, the United Kingdom and Germany. I have also published several articles these plants and other succulent plants topics.

### ABOUT THE PRESENTATION:

The genus *Haworthiopsis* was established by Gordon Rowley (2013) to accommodate the species formerly classified under the subgenus *Hexangulares* of the genus *Haworthia*. There are 18 species and 25 varieties and forms that are recognised. Its distribution is centred in South Africa and is near-endemic to this country where it occurs in most of the provinces, excluding Gauteng. The epicentre for the species in the genus is in the Eastern Cape. Species in this genus are popular among



taxonomists, collectors and growers, with some species like *H. attenuata* and *H. limifolia* that are grown commercially in large numbers.



REFRESHMENTS FOR JANUARY!

LAST NAMES: **D - H**

SEE YOU AT THE JANUARY MEETING

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH**  
**DOORS OPEN 6:15PM**

THE ONE GENERATION CENTER  
18255 Victory Blvd,  
Reseda, CA 91335

**2020 OFFICERS****PRESIDENT**

Joyce Schumann

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Kim Thorpe Chavez

**1ST VP, PROGRAMS**

Ron Behar

**2ND VP, PLANT OF THE MONTH**

Manny Rivera

**3RD VP, SPECIAL EVENTS**

Jim Esterle

**SECRETARY**

Ron Cooper

**TREASURER**

Kathy Gogol

**DIRECTOR 1 MEMBERSHIP**

Kathleen Misko

**DIRECTOR 2 EDUCATION**

Karen Ostler

**COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR****CACTUS CHRONICLE EDITOR**Kimberly Gomez-Tong  
newsletter@lacactus.com**PUBLICITY****SOCIAL MEDIA****WEBMISTRESS**

Nancy Neymark

**CACTUS GARDEN CHAIR**

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**FALL SALE****FESTIVAL CHAIR**

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**INTER-CITY REPRESENTATIVE**

Karen Ostler

**MONTHLY DRAWING**

Al Mindel

**PLANT PROCUREMENT**

Collin O'Callaghan

**HISTORIAN**

Nils Schirmmacher

**HOLIDAY PARTY CHAIR**

Debi Heaps

**LIBRARIAN**

Susan Phillips

**MEETING REFRESHMENTS****POM PLANT DESCRIPTIONS**

# A Word From Our President



## Some would call it a “glaring error.”

Some would call it a “typographical error.” Others would call it “force of habit.” Call it what you want – I started the year off by welcoming last year in the January newsletter. No one noticed and/or everyone was too polite to mention it. So, to start again: Welcome 2020.

Each year we change the password for the “Members Only” section on our website. LACSS2020 is the current one for this year. Our updated Bylaws should be on our website at this time. Just in case you need to refer to them.....

Following the principles of “If you want something done, ask a busy person,” I asked Karen Holley to accept the position of Refreshments Chair. She accepted and will be looking forward to members who will step up and help her. As a suggestion, when you bring something to share, instead of just placing it on the table and walking away, offer to help Karen for 5 or 10 minutes. Plates, utensils, table cloths, napkins etc. etc. etc. need to be set out. This will go faster if you help. If you are feeling adventurous, you could offer to make the coffee. My many thanks to Karen for accepting this most important position!! And speaking of helping – thanks to all of you who stay the extra few minutes at the end of the meeting to put the chairs and tables away.

I would like to remind you that our former “Third Saturday of the Month” mentoring programs have been renamed “Second Saturday of the Month” mentoring sessions. The first one will be Saturday, February 8. Karen has planned a program focusing on preparation for spring. The main thing to remember is which of your plants are winter growers and which are summer growers. If you don’t know, either ask the expert at the meeting or attend the mentoring session. OR BOTH!

The vendors in the back of the room are an important and integral part of the educational portion of the club’s mission. It looks kind of like they are just there to sell stuff (well, kind of, they are) but they are a great resource of information regarding the plants they are selling. You will learn a lot by asking them how they grew the plant, did they grow it from seed, how did they grow it from seed (patience, patience and more patience and some good luck – my take on it!) and is it suitable to be a plant of the month entry.? And much more. So, I am thanking them for sharing their time and expertise with all of us so we can all have a good time watching our plants thrive.

I believe the year is off to a good start with lots of energy and interest by all who attend our meetings. I look forward to the continuing involvement of all members in the club activities. We achieve more if we all work and play together for the common goal of learning and teaching.

See you soon.  
Joyce

# PLANT<sup>of the</sup> MONTH

## PLANT<sup>of the</sup> MONTH POLICIES FOR 2020

The Plant of the Month competition is an important educational component of our monthly meetings. By showing your specimens, you learn tips about their care and staging, and gain recognition for a job well done.

The most intense competition has been in the “Rookie” division, with exceptional entries from many new members. In order to elevate the levels of competition in the more experienced divisions, the LACSS Board has initiated some new policies that will move people into higher levels of competition and increase the number of entries in the Advanced and Open divisions.

In addition, point counts will begin at 0 in each category, with 6 points for a first place, 4 points for a second place, 2 points for a third place, and 1 point for each plant entered.

Plant voted “BEST OF SHOW” receives 4 extra points.

### NEW COMPETITION DIVISIONS

#### Rookie

0 – 50 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “rookie” award points

#### Novice

0 - 100 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “novice” award points

#### Advanced

0 to 200 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “advanced” points

#### Open

Experienced growers who have earned 200 “advanced” points along with vendors who sell at shows outside of LACSS.

1. All plants must be in exhibitor’s possession for a minimum of 6 months. This does not apply to Rookies.
2. All plants must be free of pests.
3. 3” Miniature refers to inside diameter of the pot.
4. Size on odd shaped pots is determined by adding length plus width and dividing by two.
5. With the exception of Gasterias and Sansevierias; all variegates, crests, and monstrose must appear only in those categories.
6. Plants stands or risers may only be used if the plant cascades below the level of the pot, e.g. Rhipsalis, Hoya, etc.

# PLANT of the MONTH (JANUARY) RESULTS

## SUCCULENT - ALOE SPECIES

### ROOKIE

<b>FIRST</b>	?	?
<b>SECOND</b>	ALOE SUPRAFOLIATA	<b>EMILY AKERS + JOHN GIESING</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	ALOE SOMALIENSIS	<b>ANGELA CLUBB</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	ALOE CASTILLONIAE	<b>JAMES LEMOS</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	ARISTALOE ARISTATA	<b>SUZANNE JOHNSTON</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	ALOE CASTILLONIAE	<b>JAMES LEMOS</b>

### NOVICE

<b>FIRST</b>	ALOE PICTIFOLIA	<b>DEBI HEAPS</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	ALOE BREVIFOLIA	<b>DIANE CABANNE</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	ALOE TWEEDIAE	<b>FELIPE DELGADO</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	ALOE VANBALENII	<b>RON COOPER</b>

### ADVANCED

<b>FIRST</b>	ALOE CASTILLONIAE	<b>ROXIE &amp; JIM ESTERLE</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	ALOE ERINACEA	<b>SANDY CHASE</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	ALOE PERFOLIATA	<b>AL MINDEL</b>

### OPEN

<b>FIRST</b>	ALOE COOPERI	<b>KIM &amp; ARTIE CHAVEZ</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	ALOE FIMBRIATUS	<b>KIM &amp; ARTIE CHAVEZ</b>

## CACTUS - BUININGIA + UEBELMANNIA

### ROOKIE

<b>FIRST</b>	?	?
<b>SECOND</b>	?	?
<b>THIRD</b>	?	?

### NOVICE

<b>FIRST</b>	BUININGIA AUREUS	<b>DEBI HEAPS</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	COLEOCEPHALOCEREUS AUREUS	<b>FELIPE DELGADO</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	UEBELMANNIA PECTINIFERA	<b>FELIPE DELGADO</b>

### ADVANCED

<b>FIRST</b>	?	?
<b>SECOND</b>	UEBELMANNIA PECTINIFERA	<b>RON BEHAR</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	BUININGIA BREVICYLINDRICA V. LONGISPINA	<b>RON BEHAR</b>

### OPEN

<b>FIRST</b>	UEBELMANNIA PECTINIFERA SSP FLAVISPINA	<b>KIM &amp; ARTIE CHAVEZ</b>
<b>SECOND</b>	COLEOCEPHALOCEREUS AUREUS	<b>KIM &amp; ARTIE CHAVEZ</b>
<b>THIRD</b>	UEBELMANNIA PECTINIFERA	<b>KIM &amp; ARTIE CHAVEZ</b>



## PLANT of the MONTH 2020

### FEBRUARY

Turbinicarpus & Gymnocactus  
Tylecodon

### MARCH

Eriosyce  
Haworthia

### APRIL

Obregonia, Strombocactus,  
Ortegocactus  
Agave

### MAY

Small cacti & succulent staged as  
miniature

### JUNE

Favorites

### JULY

Aztekium & Geohintonia  
Pachypodium from Madagascar  
& Plumeria

### AUGUST

Sulcorebutia & Weingartia  
Fockea

### SEPTEMBER

Ferocactus & Leuchtenbergia  
Dorstenia & Ficus

### OCTOBER

Parodia & Notocactus  
Euphorbia Stem Type

### NOVEMBER

Crest & Monstrose  
Crest & Monstrose



# JANUARY PLANT of the MONTH

## TURBINICARPUS (INCLUDING GYMNOCACTUS) BY KYLE WILLIAMS

Photo credits: Kyle Williams, Peter Mansfeld, C.T. Johansson

Turbinicarpus is a genus of approximately 30 species from Central and Northern Mexico. In terms of size of the mature plants, Turbinicarpus as a whole is among the smallest of all cacti. A number of species are 3" or less in size when mature. That makes this genus ideal for collectors with limited space. In nature many species grow in alkaline soils, often in the cracks of rocks.

Like a number of genera I've discussed here before, Turbinicarpus has a complicated taxonomic history. It has previously been linked to genera such as Thelocactus, Pelecyphora, and Echinocactus. At least one author considered Turbinicarpus to be juvenile forms of Neolloydia. As with many taxonomic debates of the past, modern techniques including DNA sequencing have helped resolve outstanding issues. In this case Turbinicarpus is a genus of its own but now Gymnocactus is included within it. In other words, if you have any cacti labelled as Gymnocactus then you should rename them Turbinicarpus.

Many species of Turbinicarpus show a distinct difference in appearance between its young, or juvenile, form and the adult form. Among the upright species such as *T. kranzianus* the plant develops something of an "ice cream cone" shape where the early stages of



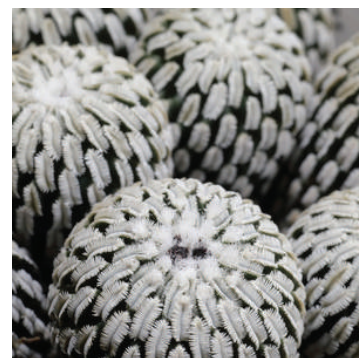
*Turbinicarpus kranzianus*

growth are narrow with tiny spines. Then when the adult stage kicks in the new growth widens rapidly and has very different spination. Cacti with distinct juvenile and adult forms do occur in other genera, but overall are uncommon (the alternative being young plants that look like miniature forms of the adult) among cacti as a whole. Another commonality among many Turbinicarpus species are spines that curve upward.

Cultivation is similar to other cacti, though be especially careful not to overwater as these species have tap roots (tap rooted species are more prone to rot in wet soil). Pick a pot in appropriate proportion to the small size of the plants. Cultivation in the landscape is not recommended unless you are set up to care for miniature plants in the ground.



*Turbinicarpus alonsoi*



*Turbinicarpus pseudopectinatus*

# JANUARY PLANT of the MONTH

## TYLECODON BY KYLE WILLIAMS

Photo Credits: Kyle Williams & Brita Lomba



*Tylecodon wallichii*



*Tylecodon paniculatus*

Tylecodon is a genus of approximately 46 species distributed in Western South Africa and Namibia. In general, the plants in this genus have white to golden stems with succulent green leaves which can short and rounded to long and shaped like a green bean and range from a few inches tall to shrubs that can reach six feet or more.

All species of Tylecodon are winter growers which love cool wet winters, making them fantastic for our climate. In the fall they start leafing out, which is the signal to water them more regularly. In fact, they really appreciate being left out in the rain, which is opposite of what you should do for most other cacti and succulents. They continue to grow throughout the winter and in the spring produce white, yellow, or greenish flowers (depending on the species) which set fruit just before going dormant of the summer. Most of the time the plant will drop all its leaves in the summer. Keep it dry then. You can give a little water from time to time in the summer if you really want, but too much moisture can cause rot. It is important to learn the requirements of the species you have as some like more moisture than others. In general I've found the larger species to be easier to grow as the smaller ones can be more sensitive to overwatering.

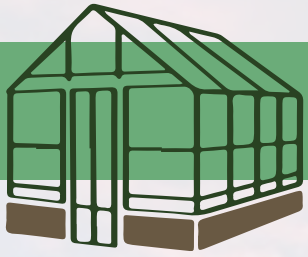
Tylecodon has an interesting taxonomic history. It belongs to the Crassulaceae, a large succulent family which contains such familiar plants as Sedum, Crassula, Aeonium, Echeveria and our native Dudleya. Originally these plants were described as members of the genus Cotyledon, another South African genus with many plants in cultivation. However, in 1978 it was determined that these species belonged in a genus of their own due primarily to details of the flowers and the

leaves being deciduous (dropping off) in the summer as well as how they are attached to the stem (Tylecodon has spiral arrangement while Cotyledon has opposite leaves). The botanist who established Tylecodon as a genus decided to play a clever word game as the letters in the name can be rearranged to spell Cotyledon (i.e. an anagram).

A final, very important note about Tylecodon. The plant is quite toxic if ingested so keep away from very young children or pets prone to gnawing on your greenery. You don't need to worry about merely handling the plant, which can be done quite safely with no special precautions.



*Tylecodon schaffarianus*



# GREENHOUSE NOTES

by KAREN OSTLER

## Houseplants.

We cactus and succulent growers don't often think of our plants as "houseplants," but many genera do well growing indoors, especially those that come from areas of the world that are either jungle-like or outright tropical. And some genera can be 'taught' to live indoors.

I grow Sansevierias, Hoyas, and Bowieas indoors in a warm south facing room. Haworthias line my east facing kitchen window as well as a few tender bulbs acquired from Shows over the years. In the middle of winter our house looks like a jungle with plants lining every south, east and west facing window. A *Psuedobombax ellipticum* and *Zamias* fight for space with *Dracaenas* and *Sansevierias*. A *Neoalsomitra* is tangled in with *Bowiea* vines and yellowing *Operculicarya* leaves litter the carpet. I know I should probably stick with plants that can either live outdoors all year round like the *Ferocactus* and *Oreocereus* or that can winter in the greenhouse like the *Fockeas* do, but I love all of these plants. And that brings me to caring for the indoor babies.

Just because they live inside doesn't mean they are safe from the pests that attack plants, in fact, they might be even more susceptible to some of them. The temperatures that we find most comfortable are the same ones that encourage spider mites and mealy bugs. Every time I water I check my plants, both indoors and in the greenhouse. If I find spider mites in the house, that plant IMMEDIATELY gets moved to the bathtub and gets a through washing down, underside of the leaves, the stems and the pot. I spray the entire plant with a very dilute mix of Dawn and water; undersides of the leaves, stems and the surface of the soil. Then I wait two days and spray again; wait another two days and spray again. I check every plant around the infected plant every day for at least a week, because there is absolutely nothing worse than spider mites taking over an indoor collection. And don't get me started on mealy bugs. They require two weeks of spraying every three days and a complete change of soil.

And watering indoor plants is different than our outside plants. Unless you keep your house at a chilly 60 with a minimum of 45% humidity; not many of us do; your plants are going to dry out from the heater and the low humidity. At 78 degrees and 10% humidity, they are going to need to be watered at least every ten to fourteen days. And just like out in the garden, they need to be thoroughly watered, until the water flows out of the pot and because they are succulent, that water standing in the saucer need to be dumped so the roots don't rot.

And don't ignore the plants in the yard. More of our outdoor plants die over our winters than any other time; including the high temperatures of summer, mostly because of those sunny skies in winter. So check your plants, make sure plastic pots aren't over heating because the sun angle has changed, cooking the roots. Make certain that the low angled sun isn't burning the lower side of your prized *Mammillaria*.

If it is predicted to be cold; cover or move plants against an overhanging roof. Do not use plastic sheeting, the plant will cook if you forget the next day to uncover it; instead use old towels, or sheets or cheap burlap. Your plants will be thankful.

Happy growing!

Karen Ostler

# Membership Page

BY KATHLEEN MISKO



Greetings from your Membership Committee,

Before we update our roster for 2020 we need you to renew your membership. It's easier this year as you can use PayPal.

You can also print out the form and mail it in. You can also pay at the Feb.meeting. Help us send out a complete roster.

**\$20 single**

**\$25 family**

This membership covers 11 meetings and a party. That's world renowned speakers, Steve Rudolph's corn casserole and Karen Ostler's fudge. Just to name two.. You also have access to an amazing library! Might I mention Monthly Raffle Drawings, Plant of the Month teaches us more than the internet. That's right, Manny is like having YouTube at your fingertips. He teaches you things you didn't even know you needed to know. This is renew, so y'all know what I'm talking about. Let's have a 100% participation.

Oh my gosh. Free table.

I think we should charge more.

Pay now before we do  
(Just kidding, or am I?)

Thank You.  
Kathleen Misko,  
Membership Committee Chair.



# Lacss 2020 Dues

**MAIL DUES TO:  
LACSS MEMBERSHIP  
P.O. BOX 280518  
NORTHRIDGE CA. 91328**

**NAME:**  **BIRTHDATE M/D:**

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP  FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

**FAMILY MEMBER:**  **BIRTHDATE M/D:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY:**  **ZIP:**

**HOUSE PHONE:**  **CELL PHONE:**

**YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS:**

Your family and guests are always welcome.  
Dues: \$20 for individual \$25 for family

Your cooperation will let me finish the yearbook by February, confirm and crisp up our existing records.

Here are some additional questions:

**I WANT ADDRESSES IN THE ROSTER** YES  NO

(OFFICE USE ONLY)

**PAYMENT TYPE** CHECK#  CASH \$  C/C

**RECEIPT#**  **DATE**  **BY**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## FEBRUARY

### FEB. 8

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY-- SHOW & SALE  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA  
INFO. 858-382-1797

## MARCH

### MAR. 19-21

ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY-- SPRING SHOW AND SALE.  
THURS 19TH 6PM-9PM, FRI. 20TH 9-7PM, SAT. 21ST 9AM-5PM  
1000 S. STATE COLLEGE BL., (ANAHEIM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH) ANAHEIM, CA  
INFORMATION CALL 657-549-0702

## APRIL

### APR. 4-5

SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY-- SHOW & SALE  
9PM-4PM, SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD.,  
PALOS VERDES, CA INFO: [HTTP://WWW.SOUTHCOASTCSS.ORG](http://www.southcoastcss.org)

### APR. 19

CONEJO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY PLANT SALE  
9AM-4PM 558 N. VENTU PARK ROAD, THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320  
INFO: [WWW.CONEJOCSS.COM](http://www.conejocss.com) OR [CONEJOCSS@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:CONEJOCSS@HOTMAIL.COM)

## MAY

### MAY 2-3

SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM  
2ND 10AM-5PM, 3RD 10AM-4PM  
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783

### MAY 3

SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
9AM-4PM SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS,  
INFO. 310-833-6823

### MAY 8-9

GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY- SHOW AND SALE  
FRI & SAT 9AM-4PM, REDLANDS CHURCH OF NAZARENE--  
1307 E. CITRUS AVE., REDLANDS, CA  
INFO: 909-910-9195 OR [WWW.GATESSCSS.COM](http://www.gatescss.com)

## JUNE

### JUNE 6-7

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY--  
SUMMER SHOW & SALE  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA INFO. 858-382-1797

### JUNE 13-14

LOS ANGELES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY--  
DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANT FESTIVAL SHOW AND SALE,  
JUNE 13TH 9-4PM, JUNE 14TH 9-3PM  
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD., ENCINO, CA.  
INFO. [WWW.LACACTUS.COM](http://www.lacactus.com)

### APR. 26

HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE  
10AM-5PM HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS,  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-3504

### MAY ?

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB PLANT SHOW AND SALE  
INFO. 626-201-5519

### MAY 24-25

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SALE & SHOW  
MAY 24TH 10AM-5PM, 25TH 10AM-4PM  
LUDWICK CENTER, 864 SANTA ROSA  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA - INFO. [TERRIELEIVERS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TERRIELEIVERS@GMAIL.COM)

### JUNE 27-28

CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE -  
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.  
PLANTS SALES START JUNE 26TH THRU JUN. 28TH 10AM-5PM  
SHOW OPENS JUNE 27TH THUR JUNE, 28TH 10AM-5PM  
INFO. 626-405-3504