

**More New Faces-** By Stan Southwick



Business is thriving and we are working the computers with two hands to get things done! We would use our toes but that just seems a little weird. Instead, we hired two new aspiring landscape architects. I thought it would be best if they told a little about themselves.

**Jon Marenfeld-** I'm originally from New York State and have traveled up and down the east coast, upper Midwest and the desert Southwest. I like touring and exploring state and national parks, listening to music, attending sporting events, and hanging out with my wife and my two Chow-Chow mix dogs. Having grown up in a totally different environment and climate I've come to appreciate and treasure the biodiversity, harshness, and fragility of the Sonoran and Mojave deserts over the past 15 years, mostly in Tucson, and most recently Henderson.

**Justin Van Cleef-** As I am not good at writing anything about myself, I figured that I should just use the acronym S.L.A.M. to list things that describe me. Let's start with my infatuation 'S'an Francisco 49ers, and move on to a great time in my life when I played on a D-league softball team named the 'L'ouisville Chuggers with all of my closest friends. We did not win a single game that season. Next, I would say that my favorite writer/director would have to be Wes 'A'nderson, and will end with the band 'M'illencolin, who first inspired me to pick up a guitar 15 years ago, which I still play to this day.

**Consultant of the Month**

Bob is a new connection and resource to many at SLA but an old friend to others. He has recently helped our office transition to using CAD



F/X, an AutoDesk product developed specifically for use by Landscape Architects. Bob is also a talented graphic designer and illustrator that offers services to land developers, architects, engineers, and other related industries. We have enjoyed our renewed connection with Bob and look forward to finding ways to utilize his many talents in the future.

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."  
— Chinese Proverb

**Favorite Flora:**

**Ferocactus cylindraceus- Compass Barrel-** By Matt Durham



If you have ever been near any cliffs around Lake Mead or the Colorado River, you have probably admired the red cacti perched somehow from any breaks in the rocks. This is the Compass Barrel (*Ferocactus cylindraceus*) which ranges from Mexico North to Western Arizona and Southeastern California and Nevada. They are usually found in gravel soil along canyon walls and rocky foothills where they can grow up to 8 feet tall. They have a diameter of up to 14 inches with green fluted ribs and red spines that gray as they age. The Compass

Barrel blooms yellow flowers with hints of red from its crown in May and June. This cactus gets its common name from its growth habit as it leans to the south as the plant ages. This is caused from the protected northern side of the cactus growing faster than the southern side.

This cactus is very slow growing in a landscape so buy a specimen as large as, or close to, the size you would like it to be at maturity. Heat, sun, and very well drained soil are key to growing the Compass Barrel. Plant it among other low water use plants and cacti such as Creosote Bush (*Larrea tridentata*), Indian Fig Prickly Pear (*Opuntia ficus-indica*), and Rock verbena (*Verbena tenuisecta*). Once established in a landscape, irrigation can eventually be turned off to this species all together.



**Photo of the Month**  
**A Cactus Amongst an Ancient Forest**  
Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona  
Cassie Grimes