



## GENERAL MEETING

October 2, 2001 - 7:30 PM - CASA DEL PRADO - ROOM 101

By [Ben Machado](#), 1st VP

Our guest speaker is Alan Koch owner of Gold Country Orchids in Lincoln, CA near Sacramento. He has an untitled presentation about Cattleyas and their Hybrids.

Alan has a reputation of being one of the finest growers of Cattleyas and Phalaenopsis, specializing in miniature varieties of Cattleyas. Alan is almost continuously traveling from one speaking engagement to another. For our meeting, he will be returning the night before from Chicago, then heading down to San Diego the next afternoon to make our engagement.

Alan is providing the plants for our Plant Opportunity Table, focusing on miniature Cattleyas and a mix of species.

The following is Alan Koch's biography:

"I started growing orchids in 1969 with 3 Cymbidiums given to me by my aunt. While in college I helped with the orchids at the Universities Greenhouse. I discovered that I liked Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, and Dendrobiums better. By the time I went to go to Grad School in 1974 in Los Angeles I found many orchids that grew well outdoors. There were great breeders in Southern California in the 70's and they were happy to share their knowledge with a young excited orchid grower. With a rich background in Plant Physiology and Plant Taxonomy I took a few classes from UCLA & UC Irvine in Orchidology, But the real learning ground was from people like Ernest Heatherington, Leo Holquin, Murray Spencer, P. G. Barnett, and Hugo Freed. These men gave me more information than any text book ever could. All of these men were fantastic breeders of Cattleyas including Hugo. With these men sharing all this wisdom there is no doubt why I fell in love with Cattleyas. I have moved 5 times in my life because of my obsession with orchids and needed more growing space. The last time we moved we purchased 10 acres of land so our 450,000 orchids won't have to move again. I am an expert in the Brazilian Sophronitis, which includes all the Brazillian Laelias (Don't you just love Taxonomists!). My specialty is Miniature and Compact Cattleyas which accounts for 70% of our inventory. I have spoken and been published internationally. I am a past member of the Judging Committee and Research Committee for the American Orchid Society as well as an Accredited Judge and past Chairperson of the Pacific Central Judging Center. I served 2 terms on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for Orchid Digest. I have been involved with orchids as a full time vocation since 1982 traveling far and wide, meeting lots of nice people."

### *San Diego County Orchid Society*

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If you have monthly meetings, classifieds, or announcements related to orchids, make sure the information gets to the editors by the Second Friday of each month for publishing in the next issue of this newsletter.

To contact the editors, please contact Michael Orser at 619.527.0286 or at [editor@sdorchids.com](mailto:editor@sdorchids.com)

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# Seventh Annual San Diego International Orchid Fair and Show

October 13-14, 2001

Activity Center, Del Mar Fairgrounds

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botanical garden of the American Orchid Society.

The Orchid Fair was founded by  
Greg Luetticke and William Baker.

## Calling All Volunteers!

*We Need You at the Orchid Fair!*

Here's your chance to surround yourself with orchids, make new friends, and help a good cause, by volunteering at the **San Diego International Orchid Fair, October 12, 13, and 14**. We need volunteers Friday, Saturday and Sunday to help with security, plant hotel, taking tickets, ribbon judging, and plant registration. No previous experience required! Volunteers will receive a parking pass for the Solana Gate at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, so you'll get in free. Volunteering at the Orchid Fair is a great way to learn more about orchids, and besides, it's fun!

Interested? Contact Ed Dove, 619.440.5005, e-mail [EDove@SheaHealth.com](mailto:EDove@SheaHealth.com) and tell him your interests and what time you have available, and you, too, will be part of the Orchid Fair!

## Reminder!

### San Diego International Orchid Fair PLANT REGISTRATION HOURS

for AOS, CSA, and Ribbon Judging Entries  
FRIDAY, October 12, 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Saturday, October 13, 7:00 am to 8:00 am  
Registration for all entries closes Saturday at  
8:00 am sharp!

Location: Activity Center, Del Mar Fairgrounds  
Questions about Registration? Contact Cindy  
Hill, [cynthiahill@msn.com](mailto:cynthiahill@msn.com),  
(858) 481-5782

If you would like to receive a copy of the schedule of classes for competition by e-mail, let me know. Plants can be picked up from the showroom on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 4pm. Hope to see you and your lovely plants at the Fair!

## Upcoming California Shows

taken from [www.orchidweb.org](http://www.orchidweb.org)

October 13-14

**San Diego International Orchid Fair**, Do not miss this one! This is our show, come volunteer, shop and learn about orchids! Del Mar

## TANTALIZING TREATS LET YOURSELF GO!

<i>Adaglossum</i>	<i>Degarmorara</i>	<i>Odontocidium</i>
<i>Ascocenda</i>	<i>Dendrobium</i>	<i>Odontonia</i>
<i>Bakerara</i>	<i>Encyclia</i>	<i>Oncidium</i>
<i>Beallara</i>	<i>Howeara</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum</i>
<i>Borrageara</i>	<i>Miltassia</i>	<i>Phalaenopsis</i>
<i>Brassia</i>	<i>Miltonia</i>	<i>Vuykstekeara</i>
<i>Brassidium</i>	<i>Miltonidium</i>	<i>Wilsonara</i>
<i>Cattleya</i>	<i>Mokara</i>	<i>Zygopetalums</i>
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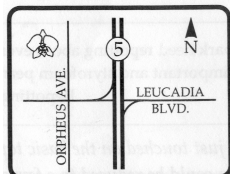
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Sat. 9am - 3pm

760.436.0317



Fairgrounds Activity Center, I-5 at Via de la Valle, Del Mar, CA.  
Contact: John Walters, 2645 Massachusetts Ave., Lemon Grove, CA  
91945; 619.466.0605; [sandiegoorchidfair@home.com](mailto:sandiegoorchidfair@home.com)

October 19-21

**East West Southland Orchid Show**, New Otani Hotel and Gardens,  
120 S. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, CA. Contact: Robert Lauri,  
714.242.1349 [www.orchidshow.org](http://www.orchidshow.org).

October 20-21

**Orchid Forum of Sacramento Show**, Garden and Arts Center, 3330  
McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA. Contact: Julia Jochim, 444 L St.,  
Rio Lidna, CA 95673; 916.991.1693

November 3-4

**Newport Harbor Orchid Society Show**, UCI Arboretum, Corner of  
Campus Drive and Jamboree Rd., Irvine, CA. Contact: Laura Lyons,  
UCI Arboretum, 949.824.5833.

November 10-11

**Riverside-San Bernardino Counties Orchid Society Show**. Contact:  
Sandy Smith, 466 Orange St., Redlands, CA 92374; 909.798.5556.

November 10-11

**Orchid Society of California Show**, Lakeside Garden Center, 666  
Bellevue, Oakland, CA. Contact: Joseph Ware, 399 Bellevue Ave.,  
Oakland, CA 94610; 510.893.3881.

December 1-2

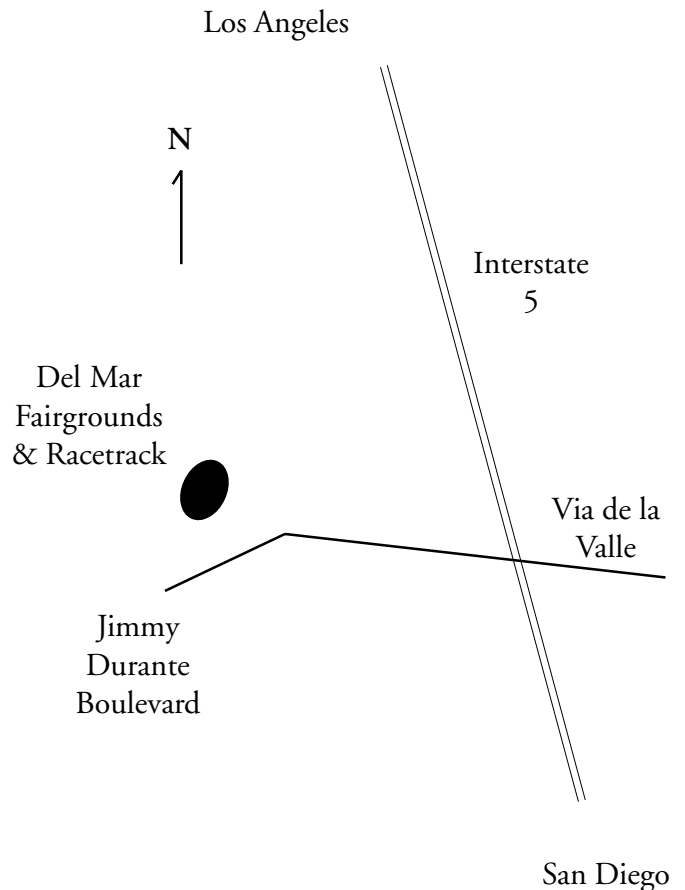
**Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Show and Sale**, Santa Barbara City  
College Cafeteria, 721 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara, CA. Contact: Tom  
Ball, 4801 Rhoads Ave., Santa Barbara, CA 93111; 805.967.3503.

## 2002 AOS Calendar

*Now Available*

The American Orchid Society has released its 2002 Calendar, which is already being hailed as another winning effort. Orchid hybridizing is the theme of this glamorous calendar featuring spectacular portraits of 12 orchids awarded by judges of the American Orchid Society. Since at least 1853, orchidists have been creating hybrids, considered by some to be the amazing, astonishing, breathtaking orchids that nature intended to make but just hasn't gotten around to yet. Currently, more than 110,000 orchid hybrids have been registered, with thousands more flowering each year. Author Downs Matthews begins with a brief introduction to the realm of creating new orchid hybrids, then offers cultural notes for growing and flowering the dozen specimens pictured. The AOS 2002 Calendar makes a wonderful gift for friends -- and yourself.

The calendar is \$10.95 - Shipping and Handling is \$4.00. It can be ordered online at: [www.orchidweb.org](http://www.orchidweb.org) or order sent with check made payable to:  
American Orchid Society  
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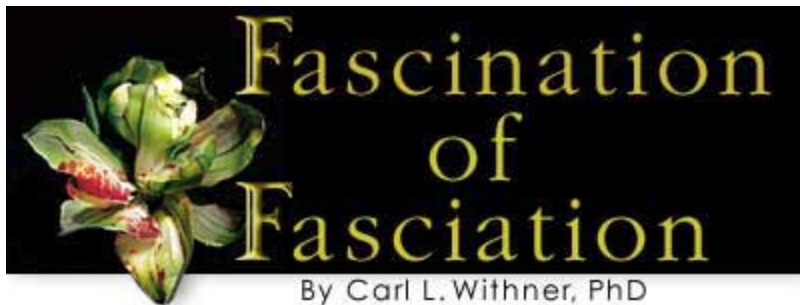


## Where is the San Diego International Orchid Fair you ask?

Del Mar Fairgrounds  
Activity Center  
Del Mar, CA

From downtown, take 5 North  
exit West on Via de la Valle  
Turn left at Jimmy Durante Boulevard  
Follow the signs to the Del Mar Racetrack

From Los Angeles, take 5 South  
exit West on Via de la Valle  
Turn left at Jimmy Durante Boulevard  
Follow the signs to the Del Mar Racetrack



## A lesson in horticultural botany

ORCHIDS Magazine, Volume 70, Number 7 July 2001

Fasciation is not peloria. That may seem like an anticlimactic statement to most readers, but it became a hot topic for discussion by the AOS judges when a Chinese cymbidium with fasciated flowers was recently displayed at a Vancouver

Orchid Society show. We on the judging team awarded the flowers and plant with a Judges Commendation, believing that the time had come for recognition of a flowering trait that is much admired in the Orient. These are rare and valuable plants in China and Japan, and they are beginning to appear in our shows and on our judging tables, especially here on the West Coast.

Now for some explanations and definitions. Peloria is a developmental phenomenon that has been noted for some time in orchid circles. It is manifested by the formation of additional lips in place of the usual petals. The peloric petals may vary from a pigment splash at the end of the petal midrib to a complete replacement of the lateral petal by a complete lip. We have seen this in cattleyas, phalaenopsis, dendrobiums and cymbidiums to date, and the plants have been used now for breeding more hybrids with the same qualities. Another variation of the phenomenon is three lateral petals instead of one being the lip. A given plant with peloric flowers produces them whenever it blooms. It can be a stable genetic change depending on the specific tissues that are involved. Peloria may result in the petals and lip having completely different colors from any of the sepals. Such cultivars have been especially popular with *Cattleya* hybridizers in Taiwan.

The causes of peloria are not understood, but they relate to the usual normal development of the flower. The causes might originally involve chromosome or gene mutations that have occurred spontaneously or as a result of some unknown combination of environmental and genetic factors. The change or mutation had to have taken place when a flower bud primordium was first developing in a tiny meristem and before the plasticity of the flower bud meristematic cells was channeled into various paths of differentiation.

Flowers are developmentally complex, having originally been branchlets of a seed-bearing plant with leaves that were adapted for reproductive purposes. As the branch shortened, the leaves became so specialized they were usually no longer recognizable as leaves. An orchid flower, basically, has three sepals, three petals, six come functional — and three carpels that together form the ovary and column. Evolutionarily speaking, those parts are leaves modified in an infinite variety of ways to produce all the orchid flowers that we constantly admire — 15 special leaves attached to a much shortened branch and very modified for seed production.

In the case of peloric flowers, it is not difficult to imagine that the developmental directions from the genes may have had a garbled transmission and accidentally produced a peloric flower, one with three petals instead of two, or three lips instead of one. Perhaps we should really wonder how the directions are transmitted correctly so many more times.

A Belgian horticulturist named Reychler, back in the 1920s, crossed two peloric forms of *Cattleya labiata* he had found. After two or three generations with selected offspring, he had cattleya flowers with as many as 15 to 20 petals and no lips. But somehow, these polypetalous variants have never been desirable in Western eyes, though some today find the extra color or shapes interesting enough when limited lip duplication is involved. Other examples to cite would be the fimbripetalous forms of *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*, the long petal in place of a pouch in *Phragmipedium lindenii*, or the famous peloria of *Cattleya intermedia* 'Aquinii'. It would also include the triandrous forms of flowers such as the Florida population of *Encyclia cochleata*.

Fasciation, the term derived from the Latin *fascis* or *fasciculum*, meaning a bundle or packet, is used to describe an

unusual anomalous sort of growth or meristems side by side. When these multiple meristems then produce more tissues or organs, the structures are often abnormal, crowding one another in bandlike or clumped configurations, often with prized or bizarre shapes. Many people collect crested forms of cacti or other succulents that result from the fasciation process. In the case of Oriental cymbidiums, the flower stalks as well as the flowers sometimes demonstrate this phenomenon, or the fasciation may be confined to just the flowers.

You might not have realized that you have seen examples of fasciation. I once had an asparagus plant in my garden that always produced bandlike stalks composed of what appeared to be five or six stalks fused together side by side. However, it tasted just the same. Another common example from the garden is cauliflower, where the flower stalk and flower primordia are multiplied into edible clumps as a result of their fasciation. In the garden flower department, the unusual flower stalks of cockscombs have long been admired, and many have seen examples of tulips or lilies that show fasciation.

An Asian citrus species, *Citrus medica*, citron or esrog (or etrog), has a variety (digitata) that is called Buddha's hand. The fruit is fasciated into fingerlike forms and is sometimes sculpted in jade or soapstone as an art object for bringing blessings into the home. It has been called fo shu kan in Chinese or bushukan in Japanese. The pot plants of some nightshade or tomato cultivars may similarly be cherished in Asia for the handlike fasciated fruits they may produce.

Again, the question arises as to the cause. We know the process can be transmitted through the seed of some plants, but not all. The anomaly can appear to some as though the plants had been sprayed with weedkiller compounds, yet flower when an apparently normal apical meristem begins to proliferate additional survived with abnormal growth patterns to tell the tale. Research has shown that some examples of fasciation are caused by a bacterium that lives within the cells of such plants as the cockscomb (or it may be a virus) and it or they produce hormonelike substances that can affect normal growth patterns and induce the fasciation. Certain trees have growths called witches' brooms, as a result of certain fungal infections in the branches. Some investigators feel it may be a mutation of the genes caused by excessive exposure to sunlight or ultraviolet radiation. Whatever the agent, or the process, the multiple meristems that develop

produce multiple parts that are out of normal control.

The fasciated cymbidium flowers have flattened and branched columns with multiple stamens, most of which may not have normal pollinia. A variety of perianth parts have crowded together with sometimes unusual shapes, even though they may still be colored to match more normal flowers. In the case of the awarded plant I mentioned above, even the flower pedicels were involved, some of which had formed branches from the main flower stalk with one or two bractlike sepals along their length. This was a plant of *Cymbidium sinense*, but I have also seen similar flowers on clones of *Cymbidium goeringii*.

These plants have been prized clones for years, if not generations, and represent plants that once came from the wild. These unusual flowers, along with some types of variegations in the foliage and plant habit have come originally from natural causes. Oriental cymbidiums do not take kindly to flasking and production from seed, so most have been grown by division from the original plants. It is not much wonder such clones are so rare and prized.

Botanists still have much to learn about the causes of these variations and how they have spontaneously occurred in the plants. As far as the orchids are concerned, they cannot be judged by our usual flower quality point scales. Perhaps we could use a Judges Commendation for appropriate recognition, but some will argue that they are obviously abnormal and should not be judged at all. When resolving this question, we place ourselves in the same bind as in trying to judge any plant with unusually variegated leaves that are notable. The same applies to peloric flowers, particularly if they are decorative or attractive. And now we must consider fasciation as well. These events are fortunately rare in judging, but we should be prepared when they occur.

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# September/October Checklist

Prepared by Ned Nash and James Rose.

**Cattleya** Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

**Cycnoches** This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches ventricosum*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

**Cymbidium** Through diligent modern breeding programs, the cymbidium season gets stretched longer and longer. Now we can expect to have flowers open as early as September and October. Stake inflorescences and move the plants to a shadier location to help the flowers develop successfully. Because the plants will have warmth tolerance "built in" genetically, keeping the plants as cool as possible will help prevent bud curl. For the midseason varieties, inflorescences should be initiated by now. Feed plants on a regular schedule with a balanced fertilizer (20-20-20)

and shade the plants lightly.

**Dendrobium** This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

**Lemboglossum biconiense** Both *Lemboglossum* (syn. *Odontoglossum*) *biconiense* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Lemboglossum biconiense* is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: *sulphureum* (green with white lip), *album* (brown with white lip) and *roseum* (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in *Odcdm. Bittersweet* and *Odm. bicross*) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for *odontoglossum* beginners and advanced alike.

**Paphiopedilum Standard**, green-leaved *paphiopedilums* begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

**Phalaenopsis** The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.

**Rossioglossum grande** Once known as *Odontoglossum grande*, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves.

## Do You Know Anyone Award Worthy?

Submitted by [Siv Gerrod](#)

### *THE DISTINGUISHED AFFILIATED SOCIETIES SERVICE AWARD SSA*

A prestigious, new award was approved by the AOS's Trustees during their Board meeting in Ohio. The Distinguished Affiliated Societies Service Award (DASSA) will be given to an Affiliated Society in recognition of sustained, outstanding contributions in areas of service and support in the field of orchidology.

Criteria for consideration of any affiliate consists of long-term sponsorship of shows, public education projects, conservation efforts, orchid workshops and hosting of local, regional and national orchid events. Further consideration will be made of an affiliate's development and distribution of an outstanding newsletter, significant support of an AOS judging center, educational efforts to growers and potential growers, support to other organizations wishing to become affiliated with the AOS, and the overall promotion and support of the AOS.

Nominations for the DASSA may be made by any member of an organization affiliated with the AOS, and should be forwarded to the Affiliated Societies Liaison Committee. If granted, the award shall be presented by the AOS President (or his/her designee) at a breakfast meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of the AOS. In addition, the selected affiliated society would be recognized in an issue of Orchids. A prior recipient of the DASSA may not be eligible for consideration again for a minimum period of five years.

If you feel that you know of a worthy candidate society, please submit a nomination letter to Emily Graybeal, Affiliated Society Liaison Committee Task Force Leader, 10904 FM 2354, Baytown, Texas 77520.

AOS Contact Information: American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, FL 33446-4351  
Main: 561.404.2000, Fax: 561.404.2100,  
email: [TheAOS@aos.org](mailto:TheAOS@aos.org)

## *New Members*

I ask that you take some time to give them all a warm "hello!"

Remember back in school when you were the new kid? Did you feel all alone? Let's not do this to our latest bunch of newcomers...

## SDCOS Board of Directors Meeting

They met, talked, and plotted our future, and discussed about important stuff like why the projector shelf was not put in by park officials for the General Meeting. They did this on September 11th.

## *UNCLASSIFIEDS*

Notice: a lack of submissions by unnamed people lead to silly improvisation by the editor, and also empty columns.

# God Bless AMERICA!

### **OCEANSIDE ORCHIDS**

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# Report from the Conservation Committee - September 11, 2001

Recommendations for Grant Funding  
Submitted by [Gary Pierwola](#)

The Conservation Committee met on July 28 and August 18<sup>th</sup> to evaluate 28 applications for Orchid Conservation Grants. The committee voted to fund eight of the applications. A brief summary of each, with the recommended amounts is presented below. The committee requests that the board of SDCOS authorize the treasurer to disburse the funds as recommended.

## 1. Lou Jost, Ecuador.

Lou Jost received funding for a project in 2000 to survey three areas of the Andean forest in Ecuador. His intent was to survey these areas to try to understand how climatic and other variables influenced the distribution of species across an area encompassing three river drainages. His work focused specifically on the distribution of *Lepanthes* species as indicators of the orchid flora generally. He produced a serious study, making contributions to the orchid literature and submitting a report to the committee. He requests \$2550 to continue this work. His goal is to arrive at an understanding of the several variables that promote species diversity and endemism as a way of targeting areas for conservation. The committee recommends funding this request in full.

## 2. Tom Nelson and Eric Hansen, Minnesota.

Tom Nelson did not himself apply for this grant, but was nominated by Eric Hansen, the author of "Orchid Fever". Tom Nelson runs a small company called 'Woods End'. The purpose of this company is rescue of Minnesota's *Cypripedium* from various public works projects, typically road building. The company itself is considerably less than an economic success because Mr. Nelson spends most of his time rescuing, transplanting, and donating the orchids. The purpose of the grant is to enable Mr. Nelson to expand his work. The committee finds that Mr. Nelson's approach to *Cypripedium* salvage is selfless, done entirely legally, and very effective. The committee recommends supporting Mr. Nelson in the amount of \$2500.

## 3. Lorena Endara, Ecuador.

Ms. Endara is working in the same area as Lou Jost, focusing on pollination biology of *Pleurothallids*. Her work has been reported in part in several scientific journals. It too seeks to understand species diversity and endemism in the Andean forest with a view to designating an area to set aside for conservation. The committee recommends funding this work in the amount of \$2600.

## 4. Gustavo A. Romero, Ph.D., Venezuela.

Dr. Romero is keeper of the Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium at Harvard University. He has been involved in compiling check lists and publishing field guides to orchids in

several areas of Venezuela. He seeks funds to complete a study of the orchid populations along the Yavita-Maroa road. Other funds are in hand to complete the work of publishing the field guide. The committee recommends funding in the amount of \$2655 for this work.

## 5. Louis Zapfack, Cameroon.

Louis Zapfack is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Plant Science at the University of Yaounde in Cameroon. He requested \$3468 for a study of the orchid biota of southern Cameroon. Over the past ten years he has been responsible for cataloging the orchid biota of western Cameroon, establishing many plants in several botanic gardens and at the Earthwatch headquarters in Nyassasso, where they are seen frequently by tourists and orchidophiles. His work has also led to greater protection for flora in the Banyang-Mbo Sanctuary. The committee recommends funding in the amount of \$2468, since we felt that \$1000 to establish a nursery is not an essential part of the project.

## 6. David Miller and Richard Warren, Brasil.

The committee has supported the Miller and Warren project for two previous years at about \$2500 per year. One year the money went to provide a diesel generator for the project headquarters and the second year the money went towards expenses of completing a book on the orchids of the Macae da Cima Forest Reserve in the Organ Mountains outside Rio de Janeiro. Over the last two decades or so Miller and Warren have established a several thousand hectare reserve and won permanent legal protection of the land. Our support this year is directed at providing support for the final work on their book. We recommend the sum of \$2250 to support their work.

## 7. Benny Bytebeier, South Africa

Dr. Bytebeier is in the Dept. of Biochemistry at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. His work will be to delineate the genetic relationships among *Disa* and *Stenoglottis* species and relate the genetics to specific habitats. This in turn will allow clear recommendations to be made about habitat protection. The committee recommends supporting the proposed work to the extent of \$2000.

## 8. Lokesh Shakya, Ph. D. Nepal

Dr. Shakya and Devendra Bajracharya propose to make several trips to an area of eastern Nepal to discover what orchids are there and to make recommendations to the local Forest Management Committees for their protection. Previous work in Nepal by a number of investigators in other areas has discovered a large number of species, but the knowledge of other areas, in particular the area proposed for study, is sparse. Their work has been published in the past so that there is reason to believe that this work will become public as well. We recommend support in the amount requested, namely \$1500.

In summary, the committee recommends funding for 8 projects covering orchid research related to conservation in Africa, Asia, South America and North America in the total amount of \$18,523. This will leave about \$800 in the Conservation Committee account.



# PlantSociety.com

Edited from a letter submitted to Siv Garrod

We are pleased to inform you that the San Diego County Orchid Society has been listed in PlantSociety.com's online reference listing. PlantSociety is the largest plant society, club, organization and supplier locator on the web with over 20,000 listings. This is a completely free listing and, is provided as a service to all plant lovers.

PlantSociety.com offers the individual plant society numerous no cost benefits including:

- An online calendar system that allows the individual society to post meeting, shows, sales, special events, etc.
- A free listing of your society web site,
- If your society doesn't have a web site, Plantsociety.com will supply Free software for you to build and maintain your Society Web Site. PlantSociety.com will then host the site AT NO COST.
- Online discussion groups for all plant related topics,
- Online Plant related classified section.

Please feel free to browse the site [www.plantsociety.com](http://www.plantsociety.com)

## Congratulations Are In Order!

Submitted by [Rebecca Lawrence](#)

A plant grown by our own Cindy Hill is featured in the September issue of AOS Orchids magazine. The article is: "The Best of the Best: First Class Certificates of 2000", by Andy Easton, AOS Director of Education. Only 17 orchids were selected as the best of the year, out of thousands of plants judged at shows around the U.S and internationally. Cindy's lady's slipper orchid, Paphiopedilum rothschildianum 'Rajah Kumis' was one of those 17 plants to receive a First Class Certificate (FCC), and the photo is on p. 833. (Rajah Kumis means 'King of the Moustaches' in Malaysian). She grew it from a seedling, and this was its first bloom. We're proud of her!

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# ONCIDIUM

on-SID-ee-um

Drawing Marion Sheehan/ Inking Stig Dalström

This is an extraordinarily large and diverse New World genus with an equally diverse number of habitats. Oncidiums may originate anywhere from sea level in the tropics to the high elevations of the Andes. This obviously makes cultural generalizations difficult. More specific instructions may be available from the grower. Some genera included are *Aspasia*, *Brassia*, warm-growing miltonias (often called the Brazilian type) and many of their hybrids.

**LIGHT** needs can vary from bright to nearly full direct sun depending on the species. Most will thrive with one to several hours of sun a day. Generally, thicker-leaved plants, such as “mule-ear” and “equitant” Oncidiums, can stand more light. In a greenhouse, 20 to 60 percent shade is required, or about 2,000 to 6,000 foot-candles, depending on the plants. In the home, east, south or west windows are ideal. Many types of Oncidiums will grow under artificial light: Four fluorescent tubes supplemented with incandescent bulbs and placed 6 to 12 inches over the plants are necessary for proper growth. Metal-halide and sodium-vapor bulbs also provide sufficient light without needing to be so close to the plants.

**TEMPERATURES** for this group are generally considered intermediate to warm: 55 to 60 F at night, and 80 to 85 F during the day. Temperatures up to 95 to 100 F are tolerated if humidity and air movement are increased as the temperatures rise, a good general rule in any case.

**WATER** requirements vary with the type of plant. Generally, plants with large fleshy roots or leaves need less frequent watering than thin-leaved or thin-rooted plants. Watering should be thorough, and the medium should dry at least halfway through the pot before watering again. This may be every two to 10 days depending on weather, pot size, and material, type of orchid and type of potting medium. Plants not actively growing should be watered less; many species

have winter rest periods.

**HUMIDITY** should be between 30 and 60 percent. Many Oncidiums require less humidity than other orchids. Most greenhouses have adequate humidity. In the home, placing the plants above moist pebbles in trays is ideal.

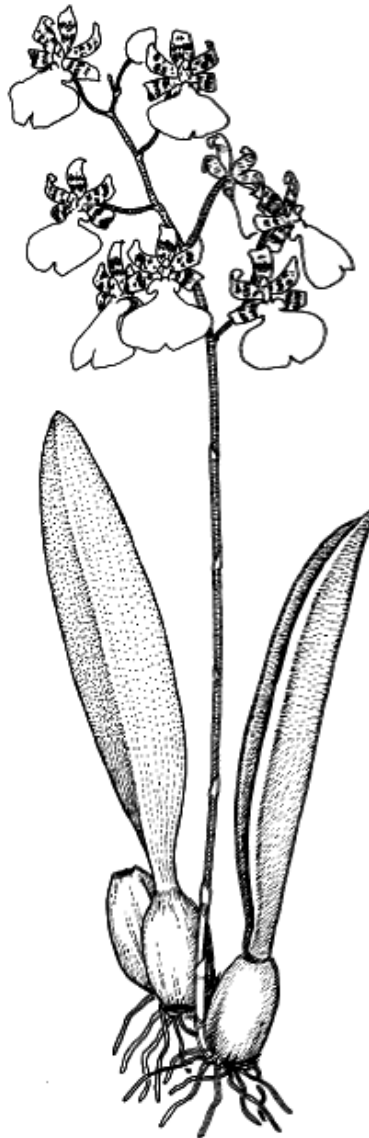
**FERTILIZE** regularly while plants are actively growing. Applications of 30-10-10 formulations twice a month are ideal for plants in a bark-based potting medium. A 20.20.20 formulation should be used on plants in other media or on slabs. If skies are cloudy, applications once a month are sufficient.

**POTTING** should be done when new growth is about one-half mature, which is usually in the spring. Fine-grade potting media are usually used with fine-rooted plants and coarser mixes with large-rooted plants; the standard size is medium grade. The plant should be positioned in the pot so that the newest growth is farthest away from the edge of the pot, allowing the maximum number of new growths before crowding the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of potting medium and fill in around the roots. Firm the medium around the roots. Keep humidity high and the potting medium dry until new roots form. Equitant and mule-ear Oncidiums, as well as other fleshy-leaved or large-rooted plants, can be grown on slabs of cork bark or tree fern or in pots filled with a coarse, well drained medium such as charcoal. This allows the drying between waterings that these types need.

The American Orchid Society is the world's leading provider of information about and related to orchids. We invite you to join us and learn about the world's most fascinating flowers and plants. Your membership entitles you to our monthly award winning magazine *Orchids*, a free copy of our

cultural guide *Your First Orchid* and the *AOS Orchid Source Directory*, a 10 percent discount on items purchased through The AOS BookShop and Orchid Emporium, and free admission to the International Orchid Center in Delray Beach, Florida.

**American Orchid Society** 16700 AOS Lane Delray Beach, Florida 33446.4351 Tel 561.404.2000 Fax 561.404.2100 email [TheAOS@aos.org](mailto:TheAOS@aos.org) Web site [orchidweb.org](http://orchidweb.org)



# Stanhopea

*stan-HOHP-ee-ah*

Drawing Marion Sheehan/ Inking Stig Dalström

Stanhopeas and related genera have large, pleated leaves and bear incredible flowers with intricate, complex structures and mechanisms for pollination, ranging from channeled walkways for insects to buckets of a watery solution. Most have inflorescences that grow downward, so the plants must be potted in hanging baskets or similar containers. Flowers are often spicily fragrant, and although the flowers are short-lived, each plant may produce many inflorescences throughout the year. Related genera Paphinia and Peristeria grow warmer than others in this group, and may produce upright inflorescences.

**L I G H T** should be bright, with direct sunlight diffused so as not to burn the leaves. Most growers suspend these orchids due to their pendulous inflorescences. This also brings the plants closer to the light. Light levels approximating those for cattleyas, around 3,000 foot-candles, are best.

**TEMPERATURES** should be moderate: 52 to 60 F at night, with day temperatures 68 to 75 F in the winter. Plants can stand short spells of higher temperatures, but air movement, humidity and shading must all be increased. Many species flower in the summer, and putting them outside in the summer may be beneficial. Move into higher light slowly to avoid burn.

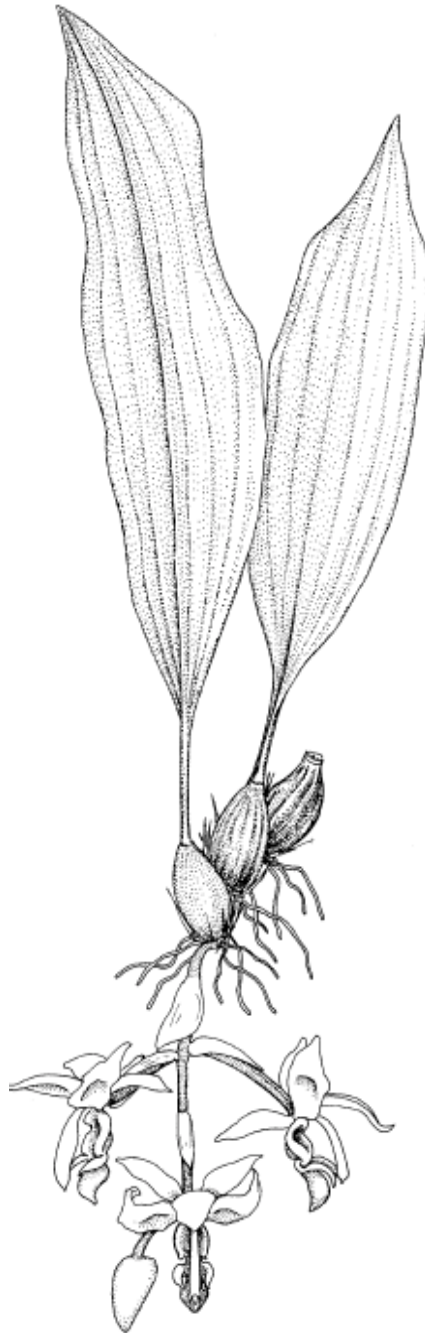
**WAT E R** in ample quantities is important to produce strong pseudobulbs and prevent foliar spotting. Stanhopeas and their relatives can be sensitive to salt accumulation in the medium, so should never be allowed

to dry out entirely, even during the winter months when growth may slow or stop. Poor watering habits are also conducive to root loss in these types, and some may be very slow to re-establish once they have lost their roots.

**F E R T I L I Z E** at regular intervals. Most growers fertilize with a diluted concentration every week to two weeks. For plants in bark, use a 30-10-10 high-nitrogen formulation, alternating with a 20-20-20 balanced formulation; in the blooming season, which is mainly summer, use a 10-30-20 blossom-booster formulation. Plants grown in osmunda need fertilization only infrequently.

**P O T T I N G** is done best right after summer flowering, as most plants seem to grow year round. Plants that rest in the winter can be repotted in the spring. The best flowerings come from large clumps of plants, so large baskets are usually used. An airy, yet moist medium seems to work best, such as medium-grade fir bark (often mixed with sphagnum peat) or osmunda fiber. Vigorous plants may need repotting every three years or so.

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*Happy Halloween!*

## BEGINNER'S MEETING

*October 2, 2001 - 7:30 PM - CASA DEL PRADO - ROOM 104*

Submitted by [Ivan and Rosemary Harrison](#)

What a fascinating Novice Class was held in September! Alma Marosz was to hold a corsage making demonstration, but commencement was delayed by the supplies being locked away and no-one having a key! While we waited, Alma started reminiscing about her tenure at the SDCOS and the many fun times that she and her husband, now deceased, had had over the years. You could have heard a pin drop! Alma regaled an attentive and enthralled audience with stories of the greenhouse that got bigger – and bigger – and bigger!

Eventually the lockers were opened, and Alma started her presentation. A goodly percentage of the audience tried their hand at the initial stages of corsage making – with varying amounts of success! Alma then showed how different a flower can look using diverse designs and colors. There will be follow-up literature for one and all at the October Novice Class, and we hope that those of you interested in pursuing this fascinating hobby will contact Alma prior to the mini-show at the end of October.

Which brings us, with much excitement and anticipation, to our speaker for October, Jim Wright. Jim will be showing us all how to decide which orchids to enter, how to prepare our plants for a show and a little on presentation. He will explain what the judges look for in deciding between one plant and another in a certain category, when both plants are of equal size and beauty. Remember that there [is The International Show in Del Mar] at the end of October, so Jim's timely talk will give us all several weeks to prepare our orchids for showing. We hope that each of you will find at least one orchid in your collection to enter for ribbon judging.

Again, there will be a couple of plants to be raffled at the Novice Class. Tickets available to the first 50 attendees. The handout in October will be "How to read an orchid label." Looking forward to seeing you there.

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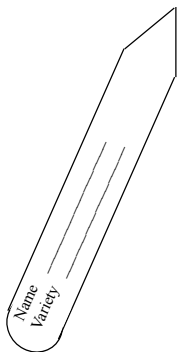
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or e-mail [cynthiahill@msn.com](mailto:cynthiahill@msn.com)

## HELP HOTLINE

The SDCOS offers this service to members who seek cultural information about their orchids. Here are some friendly hobbyists with a great deal of experience about certain types of orchids, and who have kindly volunteered to answer your questions.

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Don van Kekerix - 619.224.4938

Cymbidiums

Loren Batchman - [casa@orquideas.com](mailto:casa@orquideas.com)

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San Diego West County, all types

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San Diego East County, all types

James Masst - 619.443.2800

[Bud Close](mailto:BudClose) - 619.444.8839

South County all types

Genie Hammond - 619.426.6831

Ed Marty - 619.470.7175



# SEMPER REGALIS

By Clarence S. Lindsten  
Ed. Arizona Orchidist newsletter

In six days God created earth,  
With man to rule it all.  
He made the mountains and the lakes  
As well as forests tall.  
He bedecked the land with flowers,  
And with odors fresh and sweet.  
And the evening of the sixth day  
Found the earth now all complete.

And when he viewed his handiwork  
Upon the seventh day,  
One flower family caught his eye  
And caused the Lord to say,  
“Their blooms are surely regal, and  
Their beauty is supreme,  
For their different forms and colors  
Constitute a poet’s dream.”

Then God knelt down and blessed  
These plants and tenderly he said,  
“I’ll call this family Orchids,  
And its numbers shall spread  
To all the regions of this earth,  
And its blooms shall be the queen  
Of all the flowers I have made,  
For none finer shall be seen.”

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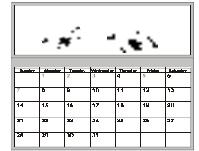
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 pm  
Beginner's Class  
Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108](tel:619.426.9108)

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 pm  
General Meeting  
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108](tel:619.426.9108)

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am  
SDCOS Species Group Meeting  
First Saturday each month  
[Paul or Ann Tuskes 858.274.5829](tel:858.274.5829)

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm  
SDCOS Board Meeting  
Second Tuesday each month  
Balboa Park  
[Siv Garrod 619.483.8787](tel:619.483.8787)

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm  
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting  
Second Friday each month  
Vista Community Center  
[Dave or Vera Stankey 959.498.7122](tel:959.498.7122)

October 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>  
**San Diego International Orchid Fair.** See pages two and three for more information. Or why not come to the General Meeting? We'll be talking about it there too! Information: [Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108](tel:619.426.9108)

October 17<sup>th</sup>  
Cymbidium Society Meeting  
Third Wednesday each month  
Carlsbad Women's Club  
[Larry Phillips 619.746.5518](tel:619.746.5518)

October 19<sup>th</sup>  
Zoo Orchid Greenhouses Open House  
Third Friday each month  
[Janette Gerrity 619.231.1515 ext. 4306](tel:619.231.1515)

October 28<sup>th</sup>  
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**OUR PURPOSE:** *To promote interest in orchids and their cultivation, to educate by exchanging information and experiences related to successful orchid culture, and to support the conservation of orchids in the wild.* SDCOS meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at Casa Del Prado in Balboa Park. We invite you to join the society to receive the monthly newsletter and many other benefits

**Beginner's Class: 6:30 pm, Room 104**  
**General Meeting: 7:30 pm, Room 101**

If you would like to join the society, please send your check for \$10\* for individual, \$12.50 for Dual membership, payable to SDCOS, to: Vivian Follmer, SDCOS Membership, 13127 Roundup, San Diego, CA 92129. Telephone: 619.538.6187, email: [vivianfollmer@netscape.net](mailto:vivianfollmer@netscape.net)

\*1/2 price January first through June thirtieth



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