



FEBRUARY 2005 NOVICE MEETING

February 1st, 2005, 6:30 PM - CASA DEL PRADO - ROOM 104

By Bill Molnar, 2nd Vice President

"Growing Cattleyas" will be the topic of the February Novice Class. Bill Molnar, a cattleya grower for 10 years, will discuss basic cattleya growing strategies, as well as a few thought provoking ideas. He'll share successful ideas as well as disappointments in an effort to improve your growing success whether you have one or several cattleyas.

Bob Hodges spoke about growing paphiopedilums at the January novice meeting. Bob's paph growing philosophy emphasizes sticking to the basics and keeping paph growing simple and enjoyable. Thanks Bob for sharing your expertise with us.

NET NUGGETS

Ron Kaufmann

kaufmann@sandiego.edu

[The Sobralia Pages](http://TheSobraliaPages.com)

sobralia.autrevie.com

When many people see an out of bloom *Sobralia* for the first time, they exclaim "You mean that's an orchid?". Plants in this genus seem to resemble a tropical grass or exotic bamboo more than the *Cattleyas* and *Phalaenopsis* that are common in cultivation, yet *Sobralias* certainly are members of the orchid family. Native to Mexico as well as Central and South America, this genus includes delightful "miniatures" less than 10 inches tall to behemoths that can reach heights of 18 feet or more. *Sobralia* also includes plants with some of the largest flowers in the orchid world: *Sobralia macrantha* 'Voodoo Priestess' AM/AOS can produce flowers 15 cm wide by 17 cm high! Many San Diegans grow their *Sobralias* outdoors, and a great photo of Harry Tolen's 'Voodoo Priestess' greets you when you visit [The Sobralia Pages](http://TheSobraliaPages.com). Houston Resident and AOS judge Nina Rach has constructed a wonderful and informative web site devoted to *Sobralias* and their relatives. The site includes an informative section on the geographic distribution of the genus, including a number of useful maps and links to sites that describe where *Sobralia* species can be found. The centerpiece of this web site is a section listing over 70 *Sobralia* species, many with information on the country of origin and photographs of both plants and flowers. Other useful features of this web site include a list of registered *Sobralia* hybrids, information on awarded *Sobralias*, and a brief page on *Sobralia* culture. Two additional and noteworthy sections treat the small-growing species and those with white flowers, many of which are difficult to distinguish from each other. Visit [The Sobralia Pages](http://TheSobraliaPages.com) for an introduction to this delightful genus!

Spring 2005 Show News

April 2005
7th setup
8th-10th show and sale

PLEASE NOTE: tickets will be available ONLY at the SDCOS meetings, beginning with the January meeting. You buy a book of 5 and you get the sixth ticket free. Tickets are \$5 each. Other than the SDCOS meetings, show tickets will sell at the front door on the show dates for \$6! There will be NO ticket mailout! The last chance for the discount tickets will be at the April 5th meeting.

This year's Spring show theme is "Ooh-la-la!" and was submitted by Sue Foquette. The significant information I can give you is:

Volunteer sheets will begin to appear in the February SDCOS meetings through April. Remember, this is the SDCOS (everybody reading this) show, what will you do to help?

Members and Advertisers

If you have monthly meetings, classifieds, submissions of interest, or announcements related to orchids, **to be considered for publication in the upcoming March issue, please contact us by February 12th.**

You are encouraged to contact the editor by either email or phone BEFORE noon, or after 6 pm **ONLY**.

Michael Orser at 619.269.3445 or editor@sorchids.com

Advertisers: please contact Lynn Ford at 619.283.4172 or lynnford10@earthlink.net under the same deadline as in bold above.

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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 \$15 for individual, \$20 for Dual membership, payable to SDCOS, to:

Tess Taylor
SDCOS Membership
P.O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176

or email: tess_mazza@hotmail.com

UPCOMING CALIFORNIA EVENTS

February 5-6

Santa Cruz Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale, Soquel High School, 401 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA. Contact: Cheryl Wagner, 91 Mountain View Rd., Santa Cruz, CA 95065; 831.457.8393.

February 10-13

Fascination of Orchids International Show, South Coast Plaza Crate & Barrel Wing, 3333 Bear St., Costa Mesa, CA. Contact: Tony Glinskas, 714.962.8165.

February 17-20

San Francisco Orchid Society Pacific Orchid Exposition, Fort Mason Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA. Contact: Dennis Westler, 1680 Gouldin Rd., Oakland, CA 94611.

March 4-6

Sonoma County Orchid Society Show, Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA. Contact: Paul Matsushita, PO Box 555, Calistoga, CA 94515; 707.942.4036; ptmatsushita@dslextrema.com.

March 4-6

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, Earl Warren Showgrounds, Exhibit Building, 3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA. Contact: Margaret Cavaletto, 1096 N. Patterson Ave., Santa Barbara, CA 93111; 805.967.6331; www.sborchidshow.com.

March 11-13

Malahini Orchid Society Show, Vallco Fashion Park, 10123 N. Wolfe Rd., Cupertino, CA. Contact: Barry Zimmerman, 685 Stirling Dr., San Jose, CA 95124; 650.262.5782.

March 12-13

Central California Orchid Society Show, Sierra Vista Mall, 1050 Shaw Ave., Clovis, CA. Contact: Jonathan Rollins, 5412 E. Norwich Ave., Fresno, CA 93727; 559.292.3751.

March 18-20

Five Cities Orchid Society Show, Arroyo Grande Regional Center, 800 Branch St., Arroyo Grande, CA. Contact: Kathleen Cronin, 710 Stratford St., Pismo Beach, CA 93449; 805.556.0137; cronincont@aol.com.

March 26-27

Napa Valley Orchid Society Show and Sale, Napa Senior Activity Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa, CA. Contact: Fredia Lloyd, 707.224.6233; fredialloyd@aol.com.

April 2-3

Golden Gate Cymbidium Society Show, Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, CA. Contact: Loretta Rodriguez, 510.538.8632, loretta193@aol.com.

April 8-10

"Ooh-la-la!" The San Diego County Orchid Society has an annual show too! More info in next month's Spring 2005 Show News. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, CA

April 9-10

Tropical Plant Society of Modesto Show, Stanislaus Union School, 1931 Kiernan Ave., Modesto, CA. Contact: Susan Wedegaertner, 1348 Kiernan Ave., Modesto, CA 95356; 209.545.4732.

April 9-10

South Bay Orchid Society Show, Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3350 Civic Center Dr., Torrance, CA. Contact: Marla Corey, 1958 W. Summerland, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA; 90275; 310.833.1918; squarerig@aol.com.

April 16-17

Sacramento Orchid Society Spring Show, Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA. Contact: Jose J. Rodriguez, 172 River Run Cir., Sacramento, CA 95833; 916.927.1810.

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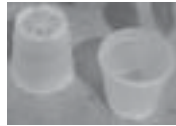
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WOW!

Did you see the Cattleya Pamela Hetherington in December's ORCHIDS magazine? Well, I have beautiful ones in bloom and in 6 inch pots, HCC from AOS \$35

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Wilsonara 'Howard's Dream'



Ginger and Mel Ochs
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Ginger and Mel Ochs
Dendrochilum magnum



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Go to an American Orchid Society Orchid Show

Susan Taylor

from <http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art27916.asp>

One of the best educational opportunities for most beginner orchid enthusiasts is to attend a local orchid show. They are always spectacular, even the smallest show. There are masses of flowers in the show itself and most shows have a large area dedicated to vendors of all kind of orchid plants and items. The American Orchid Society web site has a listing of the shows put on by their affiliated societies. Just choose "Calendar" from the linked page. You will see what is possible with almost any kind of orchid. It is also probably the only place you will be able to see many rare species of plants.

There's nothing like being able to see what the flower and plant really looks like of the plant on your wish list. I've revised my opinion on several plants I thought I wanted when I saw the size of a full grown plant of that variety. On the other hand, I've also decided I wanted something that didn't look very interesting from a picture on a catalog.

As you look at the plants, be sure to talk to the vendors who are local and get their business cards. This is the very best way to find local places to visit throughout the year to get the best orchids for your area. A local nursery will generally be more than happy to work with you and provide knowledge and expertise for your growing questions. They are also one of the best sources for learning what grows well in your area of the country. Many nurseries put on periodic classes on how to care for your orchids, how to repot, etc. Get on their mailing lists so you're aware of what is going on.

In many areas there will be one specialty grower who will exhibit and sell at local shows. If you are interested in the same kind of plant as he/she has you can gain a valuable friend by meeting them at a show. We have a world-renowned Equitant Oncidium (now know as Tolumnia) breeder in my area who loves to give tours of her greenhouses when her orchids are in bloom.

A friend of mine and I who were both interested in orchids, set up a monthly excursion to a local nursery to really meet and talk with them on a one-on-one basis. The amount of information you can learn in just one such visit is extraordinary. Ask questions. If you're having problems with a plant, take it with you (leave it in your vehicle so you don't spread disease and/or pests) and ask if they will look at it for you. Often you can not only find out what the problem is, but get the solution all in about 10 minutes!! And of course you can get a flowering plant as a bonus!



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Honohono an Island favorite

By Scot Mitamura
from

<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2005/Jan/21/il/il09a.html>

It makes no sense to me.

Why do people love the plants they love? Here's a good example: The honohono orchid, *Dendrobium anosmum*, has been popular in Hawai'i for many years.

Honohono in Hawaiian refers to the plants' growth habit of alternating leaves, very similar to the honohono grass (which actually is not a grass) or wandering Jew.

The honohono name refers to the leaves, but it is the flowers and not the leaves that people remember it by.

The honohono orchid blooms best when fertilized and watered more in summer than in winter.

In fact, the leaves fall off before flowering. I sometimes wonder about plant taxonomists too, because anosmum, its Latin name, means scentless.



Whoever named the plant probably was looking at a dried specimen, but it is the honohono orchid flower's incredible scent that gets everyone crazy about them every year.

The honohono orchid originated in Southeast Asia, where it is widespread.

It has slender stems that can easily reach grow 4 or 5 feet long. Flower colors range from lavender, to light pink, to white, there is even a semi-alba (white with a bluish lip), as well as a striped variety.

Blooming season normally ranges from March into May, so there is time to prepare for it now.

Local hybridizers are always trying to produce new color forms and to extend the blooming season.

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Here is another crazy thing about the honohono: It comes from areas with monsoon climates, very wet in the summer and dry in the winter.

This raises problems for orchid enthusiast here because our rainy season is the opposite.

To make them blossom, we need to remember to water and fertilize them heavily in the summer and dry them slightly in the winter.

I don't think you can overwater a honohono in the summer.

Remember when we used to use the rice rinse water for the honohono? Could the secret be the talc in the water, or that we had to wash rice every day?

The honohono can be grown on hapu'u (tree-fern fiber) chunks, or in coconuts or even on cork bark. I prefer to grow them in plastic pots, with a bark and peat-moss mixture, not only because I'm cheap but because the plastic pots allow me to give the plants optimum moisture.

A growing area which has bright indirect sunlight will give you the best results. A temperature range from 55 to 85 degrees is ideal.

A slight chill in the winter will induce a good flowering season.

Propagation is quite simple. In June and July, cut old stems into four-inch sections and lay them in a tray of sterile potting mix or peat moss. Remember, new plantlets will emerge only from nodes that have not flowered.

Keep them moist and shaded, watch for slugs, and get ready to share with your friends.

One important tip is to sterilize the cutting tool that you are using after each stem. The best way is to flame them with a propane torch or cigarette lighter. Most diseases are spread by dirty tools. Cuttings should flower in a couple of years.

Visit Foster Botanical Garden's orchid display, and you will see the honohono in bloom from March into April. You also can see honohono at the Kunia and Windward orchid shows.



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In Bud

February 2004 *Orchids* Preview
from the AOS website.

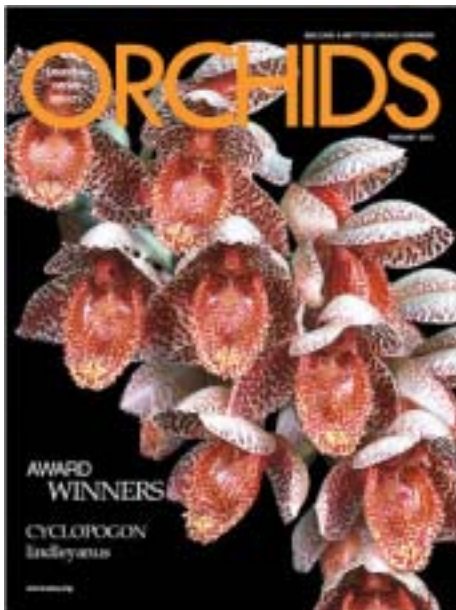
This month, H. Thomas Etheridge, PhD, introduces readers to the 13 plants lucky enough to win the Society's 2003 Special Judging Awards, which were announced at the AOS 2004 Fall Members Meeting. An annual presentation, this article is always popular among judges, commercial growers, hobbyists and others who want to see what orchids were judged the finest.

The species spotlight also shines on *Phragmipedium kovachii*, as Miluzka Damian Loayza, Norris H. Williams and W. Mark Whitten take a look at the molecular systematics of this New World orchid. Ken Slump recommends a baker's dozen of orchid species — from *Brassavola nodosa* to *Trichopilia tortillas* — while William Rhodehamel looks at *Cyclopogon lindleyanus*. And *Rhynchostele hortensiae* is the subject of *Orchids in Art*, written and illustrated by Harry Zelenko.

For those with a passion for hybrids, Susan Jones offers a spectacular assortment of *Asocendas* in In Focus, while dendrobiums are the subject of Charles Marden Fitch's column, *Orchid Portrait*.

Elsewhere in this issue, four orchid festivals at cultural institutions illustrate the growing demand for long-term orchid displays, Lee Cooke writes about the Society's efforts for funding and promoting orchid research and Ned Nash reviews a colorful new book, *American Cattleyas*.

From the ads to the photographs and current events to orchid ailments, the February issue of *Orchids* delivers on many levels for the diverse audience it serves.



C o v e r :
Catasetum denticulatum
'Sunset Valley Orchids', AM/AOS. Grown by Fred Clarke. Photograph by Charles Rowden.

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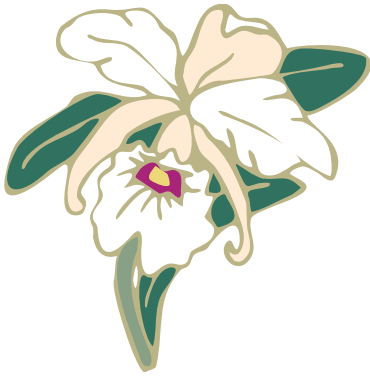
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PRESIDENT ENCOURAGES ORCHID GROWERS TO INNOVATE

2005/01/19 22:07:42

from

<http://english.www.gov.tw/index.jsp?action=cna&cnaid=6259>

Taipei, Jan. 19 (CNA) President Chen Shui-bian called on domestic orchid growers Wednesday to intensify innovation, research and development, and international marketing to make Taiwan a "kingdom of orchids." Chen made the appeal while visiting an orchid exposition that opened at the Taiwan Orchid Biotechnology Park in the southern county of Tainan. Innovation, research and development as well as international marketing are essential to increasing the global market share of Taiwan-cultivated flowers, especially after the nation's entry into the World Trade Organization, Chen said. "Only by

creating our own brands can we achieve the goal of building Taiwan into a 'kingdom of orchids,'" Chen stressed, adding that organizing expositions is one of the best marketing approaches. Chen also thanked the Cabinet-level Council of Agriculture, the Tainan County Government and the private sector for their concerted efforts to push for the establishment of the orchid park. Inspired by Taiwan's successful hosting of an Asia-Pacific orchid show last year, Chen voiced the hope that agriculture officials will do their utmost to bid for hosting the 2011 International Orchid Exposition in Tainan County. (By Luis Huang) Enditem/mw

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SDCOS Board of Directors Meeting



Submitted by [Lynn Dornfeld](#)

January 11, 2005: Called to order at 7:40PM

Present: Gary Pierwola, Sam DeMaria, Genie Hammond, Charlie Fouquette, David Brown, Bill Molnar, Lynn Ford, Bob Clark, Lynn Dornfeld.

Others Present: Ron Kaufman, Lisa Humphreys.

Reports

1. Minutes from November were read, reviewed and approved by motion. There was no Board meeting in December and therefore no notes were submitted for review.

2. Treasurer-Lynn Ford -November report presented in new format-explanation given. It was read, discussed and approved by motion. Decembers report was read, discussed, changed and approved by motion.

3. Genie Hammond is tentatively trying to line up speakers for next few months meetings; Steve Beckendorf, Ron Parsons or Bob Hamilton for February, Eric Christenson for March and Paul Gripp is confirmed for April. Topics to follow when speaker is confirmed for each month.

4. Second Vice President-Bill Molnar-February Novice Class speaker: Bill Molnar. TOPIC: GROWING CATTYLEAS

Old Business

1. Gary got 6 e-mail responses to the Christmas Party-all were positive. One recommendation was for a dinner potluck next year, which is being entertained. Genie got a few calls regarding the gift plant dispersal going quite smoothly.

2. Penny Lingo wrote a nice piece for the Mini Show which will be printed in Sunday's paper.

3. Lynn Ford wrote all checks for grants. Asked for approval for SDSU check to be rounded to \$3500 grant-approved.

New Business

1. Gary got a letter from the Botanical Society. We need a new representative for SDCOS. David Brown volunteered to be our new representative. Accepted.

2. Bill Molnar expressed concern about issues with newsletter being put together late. Gary will talk to Mike Orser about timeliness. Per Gary, Mike will continue as editor for the time being.

3. Lynn Ford will take over billing for the ads that go into the newsletter from now on.

4. Charlie brought up SDCOS joining SD Horticultural Society as a society. SD Horticultural now has orchid speakers, sells orchids. Could benefit our membership.

5. Lynn Ford asked about our membership numbers of approx. 450 members. It was discussed that some ex-members who didn't respond to first mailing never got sent a second mailing. We may want to change to second attempt to contact, more to follow.

6. Ron Kaufman brought up questions about the Nominating Committee for March. Discussion only.

NO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS

Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM

my answer to the members and the SDCOS Board of Directors

Submitted by [Michael Orser](#)

Gee, it sure would be nice if I did not have to wait for article submissions.

I have decided to go back to school, full time, and put off everything but the necessary. I already see my schedule will not allow me to attend any of the meetings, nor shows. This is why I have been proactive in the publishing of the [offer](http://sdorchids.com/news.htm) (beginning last month on <http://sdorchids.com/news.htm>) for either or both of the two positions - editor, and web administrator for the fine San Diego County Orchid Society.

No joke, and trying not to burn bridges,
Mike

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

Cattleyas, Oncidium/Odonts, Vandaceous,
Greenhouse grown, West SD County
Forrest Robinson - 858.270.6105

Species, all types, Indoor and Outdoor
Ann & Paul Tuskes - 858.274.5829

Paphiopedilums
Ann Tuskes - 858.274.5829
Bob Hodges - 619.461.4915

Phalaenopsis, Cattleyas, and Dendrobiums
Bob Swanson - 619.465.2297

Vandas, Ascocendas
Edith and Leno Galvan - 619.441.7503

Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias
Tom Osborn - 760.787.0282

Pleurothallids
Don van Kekerix - 619.224.4938

Cymbidiums
Loren Batchman - casa@orquideas.com
Sam DeMaria - 619.295.2951

Northeast County, all types
Dave Reid - 760.728.7996

San Diego West County, all types
Jean Beck - 619.435.8211

San Diego Central, Outdoor, all types
Jim Wright - 619.276.5295
Fred Tomaschke - 619.276.3235

San Diego East County, all types
James Masst - 619.443.2800
Bud Close - 619.444.8839

South County all types
Genie Hammond - 619.426.6831
Ed Marty - 619.470.7175

DATES TO REMEMBER...

February 1st, 6:30 pm
SDCOS Novice Meeting, room 104
7:30 pm General Meeting, Room 101, Casa del Prado,
Balboa Park
Bill Molnar 619.229.9220 or
Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108

February 5th, 9:00 am
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
First Saturday each month
Paul or Ann Tuskes 858.274.5829

February 7th, 7:00 pm
Quail Botanical Gardens Judging Center
First Monday each month Encinitas. Bring your plants!
Make those judges work!

February 8th, 7:00 pm
SDCOS Board Meeting
Second Tuesday each month
Balboa Park
Lynn Dornfeld 619.889.4612

February 16th
General Meeting at 7:00 pm
Always a speaker, Q&A session and raffle, the
Cymbidium Society Meeting is the Third Wednesday
each month st Carlsbad Women's Club. Info:
760.753.6952

February 18th, 10 am - 2 pm
San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey
It's their orchid greenhouse's open house
Third Friday each month
Janette Gerrity 619.231.1515 ext. 4306

February 18th, 6:45 pm
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting
Third Friday each month
The Carlsbad Women's Club
Melana Walding, 760.295.7228

April 8-10
"Ooh-la-la!" The San Diego County Orchid Society has
an annual show too! More info in next month's Spring
2005 Show News. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino
Del Rio South, San Diego, CA

Got



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annettesorchids.com



Membership Chairman - [Tess Taylor](#)
San Diego County Orchid Society
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San Diego, CA 92176

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