



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.

Volume 83

November 2005

www.sdorchids.com

San Diego County Orchid Society

NOVICE MEETING

November 1, 2005, 6:30 PM—Casa Del Prado—Room 104

By Bill Molnar, 2nd Vice President

Do you keep buying orchids, even though you are running out of growing room? Do you live in an apartment or condominium with limited window and balcony space for your orchids? Then come to the November novice class to learn how to solve your problem. John Snyder will be talking about "Growing Miniature Orchids". John has been growing orchids since he was in elementary school, when he started with his first dendrobium species. Since he began growing orchids at an early age, when he talks about his species orchids, the names roll smoothly off his tongue like a foreign language learned in early childhood. John first became a member of the San Diego Orchid Society back in 1980. He has an extensive species collection, but also enjoys growing Masdevallia hybrids. John says that he enjoys growing small

plants with big flowers. So come learn from John about how to expand your orchid enjoyment, while minimizing your growing space.

A big "Thank YOU" goes to Pam Peters and Lynn Ford for the excellent presentation they prepared for the October novice class, discussing "The Value of Participating in a Mini Show". They created the show table atmosphere of an actual mini show, demonstrated how to register and judge plants, provided some gorgeous plants for the "attendees," and explained what goes on at a mini show. Pam and Lynn, you are both very much appreciated for all that you do throughout the year, in addition to your excellent presentation at last month's Novice Meeting. Thanks, again!

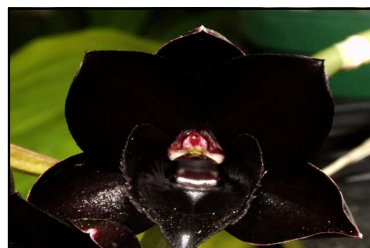
GENERAL MEETING

November 1, 2005, 7:30 PM—Casa Del Prado—Room 101

By Ron Kaufmann, 1st Vice President

Our speaker for November will be Charles Rowden, who will tell us about "Photographing Orchids." Charles has been photographing orchids for more than 10 years and is recognized as one of the top orchid photographers in the United States. He has worked as an official photographer for the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America, and his work graces many publications as well as his web site: www.orchid-photographer.com. Charles is providing two framed prints that will be raffled off at the November meeting. Here's your chance to win a work of art by one of the most prominent orchid photographers in the country!!

The plant table for our November meeting will be provided by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids. Fred always provides excellent plants, and there should be some real treasures available for anyone lucky enough to buy the winning raffle tickets!



Fredclarkeara After Dark 'Sunset Valley Orchids' is awesome! Maybe there'll be some at November's orchid raffle!

San Diego County Orchid Society

Board of Directors

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Second VP:	Bill Molnar
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Membership

We invite you to join the San Diego County Orchid Society. With your membership you will receive the newsletter and many other benefits.

To join, please send your check for \$15 for an individual membership or \$20 for a dual membership, payable to SDCOS, to:

San Diego County Orchid Society
P.O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176

Meetings

San Diego Orchid Society meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Casa Del Prado in Balboa Park.

Novice Class: 6:30 p.m., Room 104
General Meeting: 7:30 p.m., Room 101

Newsletter Entries

If you have monthly meetings, classifieds, submissions of interest, photos, or announcements related to orchids, please contact Christopher Croom at (619) 583-3804 or batescroom@cox.net.

Advertisers

Please contact Lynn Ford at (619) 283-4172 or lynnford10@earthlink.net.

Information for the December newsletter must be submitted by November 15.

SDCOS Annual Spring Orchid Show—March 2006

We need your help! The following are areas in which we need the assistance of our members in order to orchestrate a good show next spring:

- ◇ An Assistant Show Chairperson is needed to help Gary with running the show.
- ◇ Show theme suggestions and artwork are needed for the 2006 spring show. Members who submit theme suggestions, photos, or artwork that we end up using for the show will receive a **FREE** one-year subscription to *Orchid Digest* and a one-year SDCOS membership. Artwork and/or photos are needed particularly for show posters and t-shirts.
- ◇ Miscellaneous volunteers are needed to sell show tickets, stamp hands, and guard the doors to the display room, etc. All volunteers will receive a free 2006 SDCOS orchid show t-shirt.

Any potential volunteers, including prospective assistant show chairpeople, should contact Gary directly. Photos, artwork, and show themes should also be submitted to Gary.



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Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm

Tel: 760-631-0098 Fax: 760-631-0228
703 Pomelo Drive, Vista, CA 92081

Dates to Remember– San Diego County and California

November 5th, 9:00 a.m.

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

November 1st, 6:30 p.m.

SDCOS Novice Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

November 1st, 7:30 p.m.

SDCOS General Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 2nd

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Culture class at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

First Wednesday of the month

The Carlsbad Women's Club

3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad

Melana Walding (760) 295-7228

November 7th, 7:00 p.m.

Quail Botanical Gardens Judging Center

First Monday of the month

November 8th, 7:00 p.m.

SDCOS Board Meeting

Second Tuesday of the month

Balboa Park

Lynn Dornfeld (619) 889-4612

November 11th-13th

Orchid Society of California

Lakeside Garden Center

666 Bellevue, Oakland, CA

chicosorchids@yahoo.com

November 16th

Cymbidium Society Meeting

Culture class at 6:30. Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Third Wednesday of the month

Speaker: Doug Conklin, "Recognizing Better Orchids"

The Carlsbad Women's Club

3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad (760) 748-8355

November 18th, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey

The third Friday of the month

(orchid greenhouse is open)

Janette Gerrity (619) 231-1515 ext. 4306

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Net Nuggets

By: Ron Kaufmann
kaufmann@sandiego.edu

Meyers Conservatory www.troymeyers.com

Many orchid growers enjoy raising orchids from seedlings in flasks to mature, blooming plants. Others like to pollinate their own plants and have the seed sown and nurtured by a commercial flasking service. For both types of people, Meyers Conservatory is a valuable resource. Proprietor Troy Meyers offers flasks of species orchids for sale and also provides several levels of service for people with seed that they've acquired through pollination of their own plants. For people interested in buying seedlings, flasks are made to order and typically must be reserved in advance. The site contains several search functions that allows a potential customer to find information about all offerings with photos or within a particular genus. Each seed capsule that's processed by Meyers Conservatory has its own web page, providing information about the capsule's origin, the species'

culture, and in many cases, photos. A number of species pages also contain habitat information from the extensive archives of Charles (and the late) Margaret Baker. When you decide to become a customer, it's best to set up an account and log in to the site. Customers with accounts benefit from several useful features, including the opportunity to set up a notification list so that you'll be notified automatically when species in particular genera become available. If you're interested in finding a flasking service, the site provides a nicely illustrated guide with information about capsule maturation and preparing your seed. Several different services are available, including a free flasking program that should fit even the most frugal hobbyist's budget. This site is well maintained and updated frequently; stop by and take a look!

Holiday Potluck Party

(Bring the following dishes according to the first letter of your last name)

A-D Desserts

E-K Main Dishes

L-O Salads

P-U Appetizers

V-Z Breads



**Receive your
 SDCOS Newsletter
 by E-Mail!**

Contact Bob Clark at
bob1clark@san.rr.com



Glossodia major, the waxlip orchid. Those lucky enough to get them from Australia tend to kill them, because they need to grow in a moist (terrestrial) Eucalyptus bark and leaf mix. Flasks of these are occasionally available in the U.S. if you know where to look. (Photo courtesy of AusEMade.)

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 they 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, 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

Casa de Las Orquideas

Loren and Nancy Batchman

The annual **Casa de las Orquideas Open House** is once again around the corner! Come visit our nursery on **December 3 and 4** from **10 AM to 4 PM** to see the latest exciting Cymbidium and Zygopetalum releases! 3" seedlings will be specially priced at 5 for \$35 or 10 for \$60 at the Open House or for December mail orders only. **The Rowland Collection** and other special guest vendors will be joining us for all the action! We are located at 170 S. Nardo Ave., Solana Beach, CA. Parking is limited--carpooling is requested.

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Web address: www.AndysOrchids.com

Rainwater: The Best There Is

By: Christopher Croom

Our rainy season has finally come again, and not only can we worry less about fire season now, as orchid growers, we can worry less about watering our outdoor plants. But, there are a few considerations that you should have regarding your outdoor (and indoor) plants, especially this time of year.

A surprising number of people I've encountered have the general idea that rain is disgusting, always hopelessly polluted in any major city, and certainly wouldn't be something you would want to subject your prized horticultural collection to. But, despite the fact that acids in rain that come from air pollution can cause buildings to rot (particularly in the Northeastern U.S.), the same acids are not necessarily damaging to your orchids. Besides, a great majority of orchid species and hybrids favor acidic conditions, so the mild sulfuric acid that forms as the rain falls through a sulfur dioxide cloud emitted from a smokestack at a coal-burning power plant ends up being much more detrimental to our structures, forests, and lakes, than our orchids. And, since we don't have many coal burning power plants in this part of the country, our acid rain forms from nitrous oxide and nitrogen dioxide, creating nitric acid, which has nitrogen in it and tends to be even *less* harmful to our orchids. Despite all this seemingly nefarious chemistry, rainwater is the absolute best water you can provide for the vast majority of orchids in your collection, and is certainly worth saving in barrels whenever you can get it.

While there are literally a handful of orchids in cultivation that favor alkaline conditions (these generally tend to be paphiopedilums that naturally inhabit limestone soils in southeastern China—such as *P. armeniacum*, *P. malipoense*, and *P. micranthum*); any acids present in our rainwater can be mitigated by adding flakes of crushed oyster shell to the potting mixes of these plants, as the oyster shell will release calcium carbonate, which has an alkaline (or basic) pH that will buffer any acids in our rain.

Moreover, the acids caused by rain falling through pollution tend to have a leaching effect on salts that build up in the orchid mix because of our poor quality tap water, and the rainwater itself is low enough in total

dissolved solids that it will absorb the accumulated salts in the substrate as it falls through it. For this reason, rainwater is particularly desirable and effective for “flushing” your plants, which is something that should be done regularly, both as a preventative measure, and whenever the telltale white encrustation appears on the pot and on the edges of the bark or moss, notifying you of salt buildup. If there is too much salt buildup in the orchid's substrate, the roots can eventually be burned off of many orchids (especially orchids that have very thin and fine roots, although many vandas, Phalaenopsis, and cattleyas are usually quite forgiving when it comes to dissolved solids in our tapwater).

So, reap the bounty of nature this season, and use rainwater for your plants whenever you can. Just make sure to not leave your plants out all night (particularly your indoor growers that you move out for leaching and flushing), and keep your outdoor (cool-growing) monopodial orchids, like some vandas and paphiopedilums, in sheltered locations where they won't be rained on at night.

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or call toll free 877.3.MEMBER.

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SLC. GOLDEN TREAT 'CANARIES IN FLIGHT'-EXPECT
GOOD FLOWER COUNT ON TALL STEMS, PLANT IS
STRONG GROWING.

F1.702 LC. SAN DIEGO VARIABLE (LC. AUTUMN
FEST X C. HAWAIIAN VARIBLE 'STARBECKS TRIP-
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FINE PATTERN OF RASPBERRY SPOTS. PETALS
HAVE DISTINCTIVE RED-PURPLE FLARES. A DEFIN-
ITE SHOW STOPPER.

F1.580 SLC. BETTY BAKER X LC. ROJO- WE SHOWED
THIS CROSS AT LAST YEARS ORCHID FAIR AND EVE-
RYONE LIKED THE CLUSTERS OF "RED STARS."
SLC. BETTY BAKER HELD THE SEED POD AND HAS
PROVED TO BE A STRONG GROWER.

F1.602 L. LATONA 'RUE DE RIVOLI' X SCHOM-
BURGKIA BRYSIANA—HYBRIDIZED BY HELMUT
ROHRL, PLANTS WITH STRONG BULBS AND TALL
FLOWER SPIKES. EXPECT PINKS TO MAUVES. SOME
WITH FLOWER SPIKES JUST OUT OF SHEATH.

G1.065 POT. LAKELAND 'BRITT' X C. CHOCOLATE
DROP 'CERRO PUNTA'—WE ARE REALLY BUZZED
ABOUT THIS CROSS. BOTH PARENTS ARE STRONG
GROWERS. 'CERRO PUNTA' DIVISION FROM WALT
COUSINEAU DISPLAYS A CLUSTER OF PURPLE
STARS. LLB HAS 4-5 MED-LGE SIZE FLOWERS.

WE HAVE MANY MORE HYBRIDS AVAILABLE—TOO
NUMEROUS TO LIST , FROM CYMBIDIUMS, EPIDEN-
DRUMS AND ONCIDIUMS, TO VANDAS AND ZY-
GOPETALUMS.

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PLEASE RSVP!

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SDCOS Conservation Committee Raises Money at San Diego International Orchid Fair

Ron Kaufmann
Chair, SDCOS Conservation Committee

The SDCOS Conservation Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our sales booth at this year's San Diego International Orchid Fair. Thanks to the generosity of the people who donated plants and the hard work of a dedicated group of volunteers, we raised over \$4,000 to support orchid conservation!!

Plant donations were provided by John Alexander, Loren Batchman, Tom Biggart, Allen Clark, Fred Clarke, Christopher Croom, Harry Crosby, Hue Deung, Bruce Hubbard, Ron Kaufmann, Barbara Menzie, Lee Mize, Bill Molnar, Tom Osborn, Andy Phillips, Gary Pierwola, Steve Pruyn, Ann Rogers, Jacqueline Sequoia, John Snyder, Betty Stover, Peter Tobias, Dan Towson, and Paul Tuskes, as well as several anonymous donors.

The other important ingredient in our success was the effort of our volunteers who planned and set up the sales booth and staffed it throughout the fair. These hard working people included Judith Abeles, John Alexander, Wade Bogren, David Brown, Dave Graham, Ron Kaufmann, Sheri Kennedy, Bill Molnar, Steve Pruyn, Sandi Sandquist, Renate Schmidt, John Snyder, Neuita Sorella, Paul Tuskes, and Peter Tobias. We'd like to give a sincere thanks to everyone who helped to make this show a success. We couldn't have done it without you!

P.S. I apologize if I've accidentally left off the names of any donors or volunteers. Please contact me, and I'll make sure to acknowledge your contribution in next month's newsletter.

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Mark Alcorn's Lc. hybrid growing on his Asian plum tree in Tierrasanta. He's not so mad anymore about waiting four years for it to bloom, either.

Orchid Conservation Alliance

By Ron Kaufmann

The San Diego County Orchid Society has been asked to endorse the goals of a newly formed conservation group called the Orchid Conservation Alliance. The primary objective of this organization is to promote the conservation of wild orchid species in their native habitats. It is the intent of the OCA to raise funds to support the purchase of orchid habitat and the creation of protected areas where orchids and other native species can be conserved. Reserves succeed best when they are established and maintained by people living in the areas where the reserves are located. The OCA has been working with local people in Brazil and Ecuador to identify parcels of land that are especially rich in orchids and potentially available for sale. Land purchased with money provided by the OCA will be held in trust and/or legally designated for conservation purposes.

The Orchid Conservation Alliance is based in San Diego and was founded by Peter Tobias, former chair of the SDCOS Conservation Committee. Additional members of the OCA's board of directors are Ron Kaufmann, first Vice President of the SDCOS and chair of the SDCOS Conservation Committee, and Steve Beckendorf, President of The Odontoglossum Alliance and a member of the AOS Research Committee. The OCA also has a scientific advisory board that includes well-known conservationist and editor of *The Orchid Digest*, Harold Koopowitz; and Meg Lowman, noted tropical forest ecologist and former director of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens.

A motion to endorse the goals of the Orchid Conservation Alliance will be discussed and possibly put to a vote at the SDCOS General Meeting in November. More information about the OCA can be found on the organization's web site, www.orchidconservationalliance.org, and additional questions or comments can be addressed to Peter Tobias (tobias@scripps.edu 760-753-3173) or Ron Kaufmann (kaufmann@sandiego.edu 858-270-7584).



Cirrhopetalum tingabarinum has cilantro-scented blooms that are often as long as the plant is tall. (Photo courtesy of Andy's Orchids.)



After Paul Tuskes' lecture on plants in the garden, Violet Devoe attached her heartiest hybrid, "June Bride" to her Jacaranda. It was already in spike and has since bloomed.



Check it out!

The SDCOS lending library is now open from 6:30 p.m. to the start of the general meeting.

Thanks to member Owen Smith for volunteering to help out with this important resource!

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

SCCOS Board of Directors Meeting
October 11, 2005: Called to order at 7:26 PM

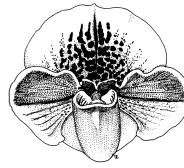
Present: Genie Hammond, Gary Pierwola, Lynn Dornfeld, Bob Clark, Lynn Ford, Bill Molnar, Ron Kaufmann, Pam Peters, David Brown.
Others Present: Chris Croom.

Reports:

- 1) Secretary-Lynn Dornfeld- minutes from the September Meeting were read, reviewed and approved by motion.
- 2) Treasurer-Lynn Ford-the September report was read, reviewed, approved and filed for audit. A revision will be made in the future reports-all meeting expenses for "Rm. 101" (general meeting expenses) will be placed in that column on monthly report.
- 3) First Vice President-Ron Kaufmann-November speaker-Charlie Rowden, photographer for Pacific Southwest AOS Judging Center. Plant table TBA. TOPIC: Orchid Photography
- 4) Second Vice President-Bill Molnar-November Novice speaker-John Snyder. TOPIC: Growing Miniature Orchids

Old Business

- 1) We will read new language for membership changes in by-laws in November and vote on changes at December meeting.
- 2) Genie brought up Loren Batchman's funding request to support Pacific Southwest AOS judging center. Discussion among the group regarding what the group might want. Ron will talk to judge chair this weekend. We will table Cymbidium award issue at this time.
- 3) Ron presented the conservation grant requests. The Conservation Committee has re-



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for more information.

viewed 20 grants and has narrowed down grant requests to top 3 grants. The Board will read, review and consider these 3 choices and will discuss and vote on these proposals at November meeting.

4) Ron discussed the Orchid Conservation Alliance. He requested review of the goals for endorsement of OCA by the Board and, thus, SDCOS. After discussion, Ron will draft a statement for the newsletter regarding OCA. After the Board reviews the language of the statement, it will be included in the newsletter for consideration and future vote by the general membership.

New Business

1) Genie brought up website and Internet server issues. Discussion regarding website links to and from SDCOS site. Genie wanted the group to consider having some guidelines for links. Ron will discuss this with the Webmasters and develop a list of links for the Board to review once or twice a year.

2) Discuss regarding plant name tags for the tables. Lynn to investigate sources on the Web and report to Genie.

3) Palomar Orchid Society felt concerned because we have not reciprocated advertising their society in our newsletter. As of now no changes will be made.

4) Discussion about Christmas party. This year we will have the potluck theme again. Pam Peters will run the plant swap. Orchid plants only. Charlie and Sam will be asked to get wine again this year.

5) Mini-show info. Still looking for volunteers, encouraging participation.

6) We will need new meeting room for Board Meeting as of January, 2006 due to city changes. All members asked to look around for rooms.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55PM Submitted by: Lynn Dornfeld

Proposed Amendment of the By-Laws of the San Diego County Orchid Society*

Amendment Title: Monthly Membership Renewal

Approved by the Board of Directors – September 13, 2005

Proposed revision to Article II, Section 3. Dues (Deleted text is lined through and new text is double underlined.)

ARTICLE II MEMBERS AND DUES

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP

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SECTION 2. CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

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SECTION 3. DUES

(a) Annual Dues for all "Regular" Society members shall be in such amount as shall be determined by the Board of Directors, payable on the first day of ~~July of each year~~ the month following the expiration of regular membership.

~~(b) Dues for members joining after January 1st shall be one-half of the regular dues.~~

~~(e b) Members shall be notified in June of each year~~ the month prior to the expiration of membership regarding current membership dues Annual Dues. Dues shall be considered in arrears if not paid on or before ~~the September meeting date~~ the first day of the third month following the expiration of membership.

~~(c) Annual Dues for new members will be due upon application for membership and will be for a period of one year.~~

SECTION 4. GOOD STANDING

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*This re-print of the SDCOS proposed by-laws amendment changes corrects some errors that regretfully occurred in last month's newsletter.

-C



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Letter From the Editor

Dear SDCOS,

I hoped you all enjoyed both the SDCOS Mini-show and the 2005 Del Mar International Orchid Show in October, that you remembered to donate plants to the Conservation table, and that you are taking care of all your new acquisitions. Keep in mind that if anything you have recently purchased was growing in a hot greenhouse in a warmer climate than ours, it will probably experience a lot of stress if you immediately try growing it outside, due to our increasingly chilly autumn nights which can be 20 or even 30 degrees cooler than a hothouse-grown orchid has been experiencing. So, this time of year, make sure to slowly acclimatize new purchases if you intend to grow them outside, and make sure that you are growing only the kinds of orchids that can handle our lower evening temperatures outside (the orchids you set outside for summer should have been taken in a few weeks ago, and if any of your warmer growers are still outside, take them in now).

Also, and this is **VERY IMPORTANT**: where are all of you??? According to our recent membership list, there

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are *many* SDCOS members who need to renew their memberships!! So, if you know someone who needs to renew their membership, tell them to send their \$15 check to the SDCOS P.O. Box address on page 2 of this newsletter, so they can keep receiving the newsletter and attend the annual Holiday Potluck Party! (Details on what to bring are listed on page 4 of this newsletter.)

Happy Growing!

-Christopher