



*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 149

July 2011

[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

## NOVICE MEETING

By Scott LaBouff, 2nd Vice President

This month David Brown will present an "Introduction to Orchids." David will define for us the botanical characteristics of an orchid, the many varied types of orchids in the world as well as their history.

I invite you to submit any topics you want for future novice class discus-

sions, work-shops, or demonstrations. This class will benefit the membership's understanding of orchids and growth of knowledge in orchid culture so that you can be a more successful grower. I do hope you have enjoyed the classes this past year. Thank you to all that provided presentations.

## GENERAL MEETING

By Bruce Berg, 1st Vice President

Thank you, Nico, for your June presentation on outdoor orchid growing structures. I picked up some good tips from you for my yard and I think many others did the same. In particular your use of photos of structures by many of our members was quite interesting. This might be a topic for a talk all by itself someday.

Mark your calendars for our next general meeting for a great slide presentation by Ron Parsons entitled "The Orchids of Crete." This should be a great travelogue presentation by one of the finest flower photographers in the United States. He has traveled the world, pursuing his passion for orchids, in addition to almost all kinds of plants. His slide collection includes over 80,000 slides taken over 25 years. He is now upgrading and taking new slides in digital format.

Some of you may recognize him as the author of several books, including *Masdavallias, the Gems of the Orchid World; Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies, & Their Relatives;* and *Floras Orchids*. If you have one or more of his books in your library, this would be an opportunity to have him autograph it for you!

If any of our members wish to join us for dinner before the meeting, please RSVP to me at [b2berg@yahoo.com](mailto:b2berg@yahoo.com). I have a table reserved for a group of eight. First to RSVP, first to get a seat at the table!

The plant opportunity table will be furnished by Andy's Orchids. As usual with Andy's, there will be some really neat and unusual plants both in pots and mounted.

## San Diego County Orchid Society

### Board of Directors

President: [David Brown](#)  
 First VP: [Bruce Berg](#)  
 Second VP: Scott LaBouff  
 Treasurer: Carol Berg  
 Secretary: [Dave Hoffmaster](#)  
 Directors: [Bob Clark](#)  
               [Christopher Croom](#)  
               [Kevin Rynearson](#)

Past President: [Genie Hammond](#)

### 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 PM, Room 101  
 General Meeting: 7:30 PM, 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 [bates-croom@cox.net](mailto:bates-croom@cox.net).

### Advertisers

Please contact Carol Berg at [winklerca@yahoo.com](mailto:winklerca@yahoo.com).

Information for the August newsletter must be submitted by Junly15.

## Receive your SDCOS Newsletter by E-Mail!

Contact:

[membership@sorchids.com](mailto:membership@sorchids.com)

## Casa de las Orquideas

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 (800) 553-3387 [sboe@sborchid.com](mailto:sboe@sborchid.com)

## Orchid Dates to Remember

July 2

### **SDCOS Species Group Meeting**

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

July 5, 6:30 p.m

### **SDCOS Novice Meeting**

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

July 5, 7:30 p.m

### **SDCOS General Meeting**

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

July 6

### **Palomar Orchid Society Meeting**

Culture class at 6:30; meeting at 7:30

First Wednesday of the month

The Carlsbad Woman's Club

3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad

Melana Walding (760) 295-7228

July 7, 7:00 PM

### **SDCOS Board Meeting**

Normally, the Thursday following the General Meeting (usually the first Thursday of the month; second Friday of the month in rare cases)

Balboa Park, Rm. 104

July 8-10

### **The 31st Santa Barbara Orchid Estate International Orchid Fair**

July 8 and July 9, 9 AM to 5 PM

July 10, 10 AM to 4 PM

[www.sborchid.com](http://www.sborchid.com)

July 15

### **San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey**

Third Friday of the month

10 AM-2 PM (orchid greenhouse is open)

Janette Gerrity (619) 231-1515 ext. 4306

July 20

### **Cymbidium Society Meeting**

Regular meeting, third Wednesday of month

Culture class at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00 PM

San Diego Cty. Botanic Gardens– Ecke Bldg.

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024

orchldy2@mac.com or (760) 732-0055

July 23-24

### **SDCOS Summer show**

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

October 22-23

### **SDCOS Fall show**

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

*If you have any announcements that you would like included in the "Dates to Remember" section of the newsletter, please e-mail [batescroom@cox.net](mailto:batescroom@cox.net).*

### **WORLD-FAMOUS**

San Diego Zoo

#### SENIOR PASS (over 60 years of age):

Yearly rate \$50 single and \$60 dual

Renewal rates: \$35 single and \$50 dual

#### DUAL MEMBERSHIP (under 59 years of age):

Yearly rate \$99.

Renewal Rate - \$84.

- ~ For two adults in the same household.
- ~ A year of FREE UNLIMITED ADMISSION to both the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park.
- ~ 6 discount guest coupons good toward admission.
- ~ A One Year Subscription to ZOONOOZ.
- ~ Free Zoo Skyfari
- ~ 4 two-for-one coupons for Zoo Bus Tour.

#### SINGLE MEMBERSHIP

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Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

Visit our website: [www.sandiegozoo.org](http://www.sandiegozoo.org)

Your membership supports our plant and animal collections and includes a monthly visit to our Orchid Odyssey on the third Friday of each month from 10am until 2pm.

## Granite Hills Orchids

### Blooming Dendrobium speciosum divisions

Dendrobium speciosum var. speciosum 'Best Wattagan

White'

7 canes

1 spike

White flowers

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Dendrobium speciosum var. curvicaule 'Mt. Fraser'

14 canes

6 spikes

White flowers

\$200

Dendrobium speciosum var. grandiflorum 'Reedy Creek'

7 canes

3 spikes

Yellow flowers

\$200

[www.granitehillsorchids.com](http://www.granitehillsorchids.com)

[tombiggart@mac.com](mailto:tombiggart@mac.com)

(619)886-8121

## Concerning Plants for Judging Sessions

By: Helmut Rohrl

The Pacific South Judging Center conducts each month three judging sessions in the Los Angeles and San Diego area. They are

### San Diego

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104

1st Tuesday of the month at 6 pm

### San Marino

Huntington Botanical Gardens

2nd Saturday of the month at 10 am

### Long Beach

Whaley Park

4th Saturday of the month at 7 pm

Visitors—with or without plants—are welcome anytime. If a member of the SDCOS wishes to have flowering plants judged at one of these sessions but is unable to take the plants to the judging facility, please contact one of the following AOS judges:

Rohrl, Helmut (La Jolla)

858-452-0976

Tuskes, Ann and Paul (Clairemont)

858-274-5829

## 2012 Spring Show

By Dave Hoffmaster

The 2012 spring show may seem like a long way off but it is time to mark your calendars and put on your thinking cap. This will be the 66<sup>th</sup> year our Society has sponsored a spring show. We need a show theme and it is not too soon to get started. Last year's theme of "Orchid Magic" was very good and we saw a number of creative ways it was worked into the displays and exhibits.

We will hold a competition again this year for a show theme. The person submitting the winning entry will receive a one year subscription to Orchid Digest magazine, a worthy prize indeed. So get out your pens and pencils or boot up your word processor and start your list. Keep in mind that the theme needs to be worked into everything from the show poster to the exhibits. Your ideas need to be submitted to either Bruce Berg or Dave Hoffmaster by early August so we can vote on them at the September meeting. Please limit the number of theme suggestions to no more than 5 or 6.

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## Member Sales at General Meetings

by Carol and Bruce Berg

This is an update to the June article in the newsletter about member sales at our General Meetings. Kay Klausing has volunteered to collect money for plant sales by members. He will be at the meetings about 6:30 pm and should be set up soon after. For the July meeting, only cash and checks will be accepted. Members wishing to sell plants who have not been assigned a vendor number will need to contact Carol to get their number. This number, as well as the price the plant is to be sold for, must be printed on a piece of masking tape with the vendor number circled. Blue tape works best both to show the numbers and also for removal by the new owner later. The Society will collect a 20% consignment fee and sales tax amount and reimburse the seller by check.

## San Diego County Orchid Society General Meeting

June 7, 2011

The 2011 Nominating Committee, Ron Kaufmann, and committee members Tom Biggart and Betty Kelepecz presented their nominations for the 2011/2012 Board of Directors for the San Diego County Orchid Society. Their recommendations are as follows:

President	Bruce Berg
First Vice President	Paul Tuskes
Second Vice President	Scott LaBouff
Secretary	Helen Pister
Treasurer	Carol Berg
Director at Large	Bob Clark
Director at Large	Lila Wagar
Director at Large	Jim Wright

The recommendations of the Nominating Committee were presented to the membership at the June 7 General Meeting. Ron Kaufmann moved to accept the recommended Board and Genie Hammond seconded. The measure was voted upon by the membership and the motion passed.

### ~ANDY'S ORCHIDS~

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## San Diego County Orchid Society

### *Show in the Park*

# July 23-24

## Casa Del Prado Balboa Park, Room 101



# In Search of Wild Orchids

*Mission Trails Regional Park & Oakzanita Peak*

By Nico Goossen and Bruce Berg

For the last dozen years we have been conducting survey hikes to find our native wild orchids in southern California. Our group has been doing this mostly for the pleasure, but also as an informal learning survey of where



and how our native orchids are surviving in our ever changing environment. So far we have hiked in locations with known populations of orchids. We are now ready to expand our search areas. Our hiking treks have been



as short as a quarter mile to as long as ten miles and covering easy trails as well as cross country boulder scrambling. Our core group is growing and we invite anyone interested to join us in our adventures.

So far, over the years, we have visited Mission Trails

Regional Park, Oakzanita Peak, Middle Peak and North Peak in Cuyumaca Rancho State Park, Noble Canyon in the Laguna Mountains, French Valley in Palomar State Park, Agua Caliente Hot Springs in Anza Borrego State Park, Agua Caliente Creek in Warner



Springs, Round Valley and Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains. This year, we have already visited the Mission Trails Regional Park and Oakzanita Peak. We hope to include sites that have been identified in Orange County, San Bernardino County, Santa Barbara County as well as ventures into the Sierras this summer.



## Mission Trails Hike

This article is a follow up report from hikes taken last year in the Mission Trails Regional Park and Oakzanita Peak Trail, in search of the orchids. We also wanted to collect some

data on the growing conditions for the *Epipactis gigantea*. Additional background information on the plants can be found on our website in the June 2010 newsletter.

Enjoying a “June gloom” overcast on June 11, 2011, a small group of our members went on a hike along the San Diego River in the Mission Trails Regional Park in search of two of our native orchids. Leaders Nico Goossens and Bruce Berg were joined by Carol Berg, Dave Hoffmaster, Kevin and Tiffany Rynearson, Linda Gardner, Lena Shiroma, Susan Lewitt and David Brown. The hike was actually set up as two separate loops, examining two different growing conditions, looking for two different orchids. Since our hike was to enter park determined sensitive plant recovery area, we were required to obtain a special entry permit from the rangers.

The first loop was along the San Diego River in search of *Epipactis gigantea*, the stream



orchid, which likes to grow where its roots can be kept wet by a constant source of moving water. Initially it may be expected that this colony may be growing in the river water, but in this case, the plants were growing in an area above the river where there was a natural seep. The group counted 131 growths at various stages of spiking. Since this hike was later in the year than last year’s hike which was held on May 8, most of the plants of blooming size had already bloomed. Many seed pods were set. The average height of plants was about 24” (63 cm). This is compared with about 40” listed as an average height in the literature.

We took several readings of the water quality both from the seep and from the river. The average of the total dissolved solids reading from three separate meters was about 800 ppm with a pH of 7.74 and a temperature of 68 degrees. In contrast, the average reading from the river was about 1000 ppm with a pH of 7.92 and a temperature of 70 degrees. We met some water quality specialists who were also sampling the river water quality and they gave us a website where we can see their more scientifically obtained results: [sdcoast-keeper.org](http://sdcoast-keeper.org). Bruce tried to access the data and was unsuccessful at this time.

If members are interested in growing this interesting native orchid, Lena reports that the Las Palitas Native plant nursery in Escondido lists them for sale: <http://www.laspalitas.com/stores/escondido/plant-products/listing> . Lena recommends that you call ahead of time to verify they have the plant in stock. She also reports that her *Epipactis* only receives tap water left out to “season,” sometimes flavored by her Golden Retriever’s slobber. From time to time, the orchids are also available from the Rex Foster Nursery, or from our Conservation sales booth.

*Continued on page 8....*



*Continued from page 7....*

The second loop was alongside the road in search of one of the species of the genus *Piperia*, the chaparral orchid. The group did not find any *Piperia* orchids. We had hoped to find this orchid because of the additional rainfall this past winter. It appears that the additional rain totals only improved the growth of other competitive native plants.

### **Oakzanita Peak Hike**

The following day, Nico Goossens and Scott La Bouff, hiked Oakzanita Peak in search of orchids in the genus *Piperia*. This hike started at the parking turnout at mile 3.7 along Hwy 79 in Cuyumaca Rancho State Park, barely a half mile from the park's southern boundary. From the parking lot we viewed the rocky outcrop of the peak looming some 1100 feet above us with the anticipated hike distance to be about 7 to 8 miles round trip. This is considered to be an easy to moderate level hike.

Our approach would be to follow the East Mesa Fire Road around the back and ascend the more gradual Oakzanita Peak Trail from the meadows of East Mesa. Vegetation has rebounded the last few years. The purpose of this year's revisit was to look at the revegetative activities on the mountain and to specifically try to locate a colony of *Piperia leptopetala* plants. Partly off the Oakzanita Peak Trail our group found the colony of less than 15 plants in various stages of growth with some plants barely emerging with just one leaf and others in spike but none in bloom. Last year, we observed many plants having been eaten and it was no different this year. Last year's count of 120 plants on the first hike and only 45 on a subsequent hike three weeks later far surpassed what was showing this year. Plants were found around or under growths of Manzanita shrubs which also is recovering from the fires with growths not yet 2 feet tall.

Nico and Bruce will be organizing additional hikes this summer and members who wish to join them are quite welcome. As hikes are planned, notice will be posted in our newsletters. If members wish to be notified by email, please notify either Nico at [licoorchids@aol.com](mailto:licoorchids@aol.com), or Bruce at [b2berg@yahoo.com](mailto:b2berg@yahoo.com).



Look deeply into the *Oerstedella pseudoschumanniana*. You are feeling sleepy. Your eyelids are becoming so heavy you can hardly keep them open. You nod off, and suddenly become overwhelmed by the need to contribute an endowment to the SDCOS or its Conservation Committee. After all, you earned no trophies or ribbons from sports teams, which is partly why you grow orchids. More important, in your trance state you decide to donate more of your time to volunteer for the society that gave you bragging rights for the first time in your life. It needs a historian to document ridiculous passages like this one (at least).



## Summer Show and Sale In the Park

By Bruce Berg

It is once again time for the San Diego County Orchid Society's "Summer Show and Sale in the Park." The Show and Sale will be held on July 23 and 24 in room 101 of Casa del Prado. So start getting your orchids ready to be judged and to be viewed by the public.

One of the reasons for having our shows in the park is to inform the public about our society and for us to share our passion for orchids. We encourage you to help out with the show by coming to the show to talk to the public and other Society members. If you don't feel comfortable conversing with the public, there are many other tasks that need to be done. We can always use the help. There will be signup sheets at the July meeting for those interested in volunteering, or you can volunteer by email by contacting David Brown at Posiedon\_djb@juno.com. David will begin setting up for the show on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm. We need about 4 people to help with this important task. We will also need people to help provide security and to help with the sales booth during the show.

You can begin bringing in your plants for display from 5:00 pm until about 8:00 pm on Friday; and on Saturday from 8:00 am until 10:00 am.

Judging will begin at 10:00 am on Saturday. The Show will open after we conclude with judging. We also need assistance with judging. Participating on a judging team is a great way to learn about our plants and get to know other members. If you are new and not experienced with judging, that is not a problem. You will be paired with at least one experienced person. Judging involves reaching a consensus among your group of what you like best.

We encourage members to sell extra plants from their collections, just as we have at the

past few shows. If you wish, you may donate plants to the Society or to our Conservation Committee. These donations are very helpful and greatly appreciated. The Conservation contributions are the most important way that we have as a society to fund conservation projects. We will also have local vendors who will tempt you with a new orchid for your collection! If you have plants to sell, you will need a vendor number which you can obtain either from Carol Berg, or at the sales desk. You will also need to put a strip of masking tape with your vendor number circled and the price you wish to sell the plant clearly marked on the tape. Blue painter's tape marked with a magic marker works best. The Society takes a small fee of 20% from the sale of each plant.

The Summer Show and Sale will open after judging on Saturday and will close at 5:00 pm. The Show and Sale will open at 10:00 am on Sunday and the doors will close at 4:00 pm. We need to allow those who show up about 4:00 pm on Sunday to enjoy our orchids and hopefully make a few purchases. At 4:30 pm sharp, David will announce that our show is closed and it is time for all non-members to exit the Show. **DISPLAY PLANTS MAY NOT BE REMOVED BEFORE 4:30 pm.** After the show we will tear down the room and we will be done until the next show on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

David Brown is the Show Chairman for the July Summer Show and Sale. Further questions should be directed to him. He can be reached at the email address above or by phone at 619-294-5925.

**San Diego County Orchid Society**  
*Show in the Park*  
July 23-24  
Casa Del Prado  
Balboa Park, Room 101

# San Diego County Orchid Society Board Meeting Minutes

June 3, 2011

Attendees: David Brown, Carol Berg, Bruce Berg, Bob Clark, Dave Hoffmaster and Scott LaBouff

President David Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

## Officers Reports

The treasurer's report will be sent to the membership for approval by email.

## Committee Reports

Spring Show-Scottish Rite has dates available for our show in March of 2014 and 2015 and are willing to negotiate with us regarding price to get us to sign contracts for those years. They do not, however, have an acceptable date for us in 2013. We need to decide if we can move the show or not have a show that year before we sign contracts for the next two years.

There will be a wrap up meeting on Saturday morning, June 25 at Dave Hoffmaster's house starting at 10:00 to review the Spring Show and lay the ground work for next year's show.

## Old Business

Election for the new Board of Directors will be held at the June 7 general Meeting.

## New Business

The speaker for the General Meeting will be Ron Parsons talking about the Orchids of Crete.

The novice speaker will be Dave Brown giving an introduction into growing orchids.

Proposed dates for both the General Meeting

and Board of Directors meeting for the next two years are as follows. David Brown will submit these dates to Balboa Park for their approval and will advise the Board.

## General Meeting

### 2012

January 3  
February 7  
March 6  
April 3  
May 1  
June 5  
July 3  
August 7  
September 4  
October 2  
November 6  
December 4

### 2013

January 3  
February 5  
March 5  
April 2  
May 7  
June 4  
July 2  
August 6  
September 3  
October 1  
November 5  
December 3

## Show in the Park

January 20-22, 2012  
July 20-22, 2012  
October 26-28, 2012  
January 18-20, 2013  
October 25-27, 2013

## Board Meeting

### 2012

January 5  
February 9  
March ?  
April 5  
May 3  
June 7  
July 5  
August 9  
September 6  
October 4  
November ?  
December 6

### 2013

January 7  
February 7  
March 7  
April 4  
May 6  
June 6  
July 8  
August 8  
September 5  
October 3  
November 7  
December 5

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

## From the Membership Desk

*Membership Roster – Corrections/Changes*

### Correction:

Clarke, Fred - phone: (760) 310-0778.

### Changes:

Spencer, Jerald - phone: (760) 731-7021.

Rynearson, Kevin - address: 6918 Oregon Ave., La Mesa, CA 91942.

As a reminder please read the Membership Privacy Policy in the **Membership Roster and By-Laws of the Society**. It describes the Society position on the use of the Membership Roster to protect your privacy.

If you would like your address or phone number or both withheld from the Roster, please contact Membership at a meeting or via email [membership@sdorchids.com](mailto:membership@sdorchids.com) or leave a message at (858) 270-8352. If you have any changes to your information in the Roster, please get them to Membership by August as we will be printing a new Roster shortly after that.

### Membership Report

To join the Orchid Society or renew membership via PayPal, go to the Membership page at this link: <http://www.sdorchids.com/membership.html>. A name badge can be ordered on the same page. The Membership Application is available on the same page or through this link: <http://www.sdorchids.com/membershipform2009.pdf>. Membership Applications are also available at the Membership table at the monthly meetings. Keep a few on hand for potential members. Please continue bringing potential members to the Society meetings and orchid shows.

## 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  
Helmut Rohrl (858) 452-0976

### Species, all types

Indoor and outdoor

Ann & Paul Tuskes (858) 274-5829

### Paphiopedilums

Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

### Phalaenopsis, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums

Bob Swanson (619) 465-2297

### Vandas, Ascocendas

Edith and Leno Galvan (619) 441-7503

### Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias

[Christopher Croom](mailto:Christopher.Croom@sdorchids.com) (619) 583-3804

### Pleurothallids

[Christopher Croom](mailto:Christopher.Croom@sdorchids.com) (619) 583-3804

### Cymbidiums

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

### Northeast County, all types

Dave Reid (760) 728-7996

### San Diego Central

Outdoor, all types

Jim Wright (619) 276-5295

Fred Tomaschke (619) 276-3235

### San Diego East County, all types

Bud Close (619) 444-8839

### South County, all types

Genie Hammond (619) 422-2235





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## Letter From the Editor

Dear SDCOS,

I hope you all are heartily enjoying the summer, and have increased the amount of water and fertilizer your plants are getting to compensate for the increased temperatures and (to some extent) light levels.

We have a lot of things to be thankful for here in San Diego, as the verdant and vibrant throes of this season often remind me. I'm not talking about the invasive and oblivious baby English sparrows with their scruffy juvenile plumage, 80% of whom will soon die in the jaws of domesticated cats at the hands of their own blissful ignorance and are everywhere right now. Albeit short, the world is friendly and beautiful to them right now, and so it is for us: full reservoirs leading into summer, a record Sierra snow pack that will hopefully hold through August, the lifting of water restrictions hearkening the official end of drought, no tornados, not too hot, a marine layer that keeps soil evaporation rates slow for now, and the world's best growing climate .

### Contact Information:

Christopher Croom

(619) 583-3804

[batescroom@cox.net](mailto:batescroom@cox.net)

Each Kansas farmer may feed 125 or more Americans, but that state is experiencing severe drought along with much of the southwest and even some southeastern portions of the country. (This is partly why there doesn't seem to be enough corn in the grocery stores for the impending 4th of July weekend and when you find it, it's expensive.) And so we cannot buy homes with sunshine, but we *can* become good at some pretty awesome hobbies!

In this issue, Bruce and Nico have treated us to another article with excellent photos about wild orchids in San Diego County. The general meeting for July has interesting content as well: Orchids of Crete, with Ron Parsons, another expert photographer and the last time I checked, the head horticulturist for the city of San Francisco. Be there or be square, as Andy is providing the raffle table.

Happy Growing,  
Christopher