

# San Diego County Orchid Society

Volume 42  
June 2002  
with nearly 700  
members!



Visit our website at [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

GENERAL MEETING June 4, 2002 - 7:30 PM -  
CASA DEL PRADO - ROOM 101  
By Ben Machado, 1<sup>st</sup> VP

Every once in awhile it's the right time to call back one of our previous Guest Speaker's. This month our Guest Speaker is Milton Carpenter from Belle Glade, Florida. His presentation is titled "An Evening with Milton." The focus of the presentation is on the many people in Milton's 35 years of hybridizing orchids, principally the Oncidiinae and Cymbidium hybrids.

You should know that Milton is a past president of the American Orchid Society from 1998 through 2000. Just before he became president of the AOS he made a very memorable presentation for us titled "The Oncidiinae Intergenerics For All Climates." He was a big hit with his down to earth approach during his talk. Since that time he has put together something of a testimony to some of those involved in orchids who have been an influence to him.

Milton says the program is light and humorous, while remaining educational. A few of the Florida area societies have received the presentation and they were all delighted. Portions of his previous programs, on "Oncidiinae hybrids for the New Millenium" which is similar to the program we had on his last visit with us and another presentation "Warmth Tolerant Cymbidium Hhybrids" have been incorporated into this new presentation.

From our last Milton Carpenter visit of February 1998, when Milton then had the position of Executive Vice President of the American Orchid Society, we have the following biography:

"Milton is a native of the Florida Everglades. He attended schools in Palm Beach County, The University of Florida and Massachusetts Trades School in Boston, Massachusetts. Milton has been growing orchids for 37 years and is the owner of Everglades Orchids, Inc. He is a past president and life member of the Orchid Society of the Palm Beaches. He is also Executive Vice President and a life member of the American Orchid Society. He is an accredited judge of the AOS as well.

Milton is a world renowned speaker, author, hybridizer, grower, photographer and explorer, having made numerous trips to different countries of the world to study and photograph orchids in their habitat. His quest in hybridizing has been to "take the road less traveled" and develop new hybrids within the Oncidiinae and Cymbidiinae which will tolerate wide variations in temperatures."

Milton will also provide the plants for our Plant Opportunity Table to include Oncidium hybrids, Chinese Cymbidiums and some Brazilian Miltonias.

Milton is offering to deliver plants ordered in advance at a 30% discount below his catalog prices. You can visit his web site at: <http://www.evergladesorchids.com/> and make direct contact for your orders at his e-mail address of: [milton@evergladesorchids.com](mailto:milton@evergladesorchids.com)

NOVICE MEETING  
June 4, 2002 - 6:30 PM -  
CASA DEL PRADO -  
ROOM 104

By Ivan Harrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

Attention all Novice Class attendees! PLANT CLINIC!

Do you have any plants that aren't looking as good as you think they should? The June meeting will be your chance to find out why they are not looking too well and learn what to do to remedy the situation. Bud Close, a long-standing SDCOS member and past President, will chair a "Plant Clinic", starting at 6:30pm in Room 104.

Please bring in your plants and your questions, and we will try to get to them all. Remember all those meetings when you either said or thought "I've got one like that". Well, this is your big chance! NO EXCUSES! THIS IS THE ONLY CLINIC THIS YEAR!

The only request is that if you think your plant is diseased, please bring it IN A PLASTIC BAG, in order to minimize the spread of any disease or pests.

Ivan and Ro will also be there to answer any of your novice questions.

See you on June 4th!



Rhyncholaelia digbyana

## CORRECTION

Last month's printed issue incorrectly stated the author of "Orchid Conservation Presentation." J. Allan Rico did not write article, it was truly from the hands of Mordechai (Moti) Bodner, Ph.D. Many Appologies to Doctor Bodner.

## UPCOMING CALIFORNIA EVENTS

June 15 - July 7  
Del Mar Fair (THE San Diego County Fair)  
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd. Del Mar,  
California.

July 27 and 28.  
Mini Show: Preparation starts on Friday, July 26 from 5 to 9 for plant registration. Registration and set continues on Saturday beginning at 8 AM, followed by Ribbon Judging at 10 AM. Doors open from 12 PM to 4 PM on Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday. Don't forget! This is your chance to show off in front of your fellow SDCOS members as well as visitors in the Balboa Park area!

### SDCOS OFFICIAL POLO SHIRTS and ETCHED GLASS LEAD CRYSTAL VASES

Every member should own one or two (navy blue and kelly green) with breast pocket polo shirts with the official logo on the pocket. These are "unisex" shirts and we have a good supply of sizes. Price: \$18.00. We still have a few of the gorgeous etched glass lead crystal vases from Arts Hawaii. They make wonderful gifts for friends or loved ones. Price \$33.00. Call Bud or Joan Close to order these items and we will have them for you at the next meeting. Phone: 619.444.8839

## Question to You, the Members, via e-mail

What type of insecticide do you use, [and] at what measurement per gallon? Ralph Cortez  
[ralphangie@earthlink.net](mailto:ralphangie@earthlink.net)

Traditional Botanical Drawing  
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Classes are Saturday mornings in South Escondido. Contact Lindsey for information: 760.746.6202, or [clmccloskey@aol.com](mailto:clmccloskey@aol.com), or [sdsocietybotart@aol.com](mailto:sdsocietybotart@aol.com)

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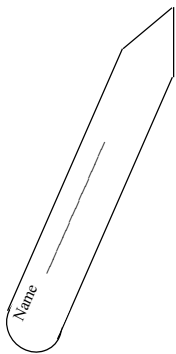
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- ✓ Appliances: Stainless steel gas stove/range, dishwasher, refrigerator, and brand new high-end electronic washer & dryer.
- ✓ Owner to supply bi-monthly gardener.

Greenhouse - 200 sq-ft greenhouse constructed of redwood, covered with Lexan, and fully climate controlled. I currently have more than 300 orchids ranging from Masdavellias to Vandas which I have grown with great success. All equipment in greenhouse to remain behind with the exception of the fogger. House will be available July 1st (or as early as June 15th if you don't mind a few painters and workers dropping by).

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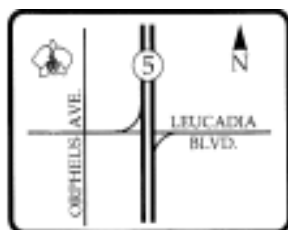
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<i>Beallara</i>	<i>Howeara</i>	<i>Paphiopedilum</i>
<i>Borrageara</i>	<i>Miltassia</i>	<i>Phalaenopsis</i>
<i>Brassia</i>	<i>Miltonia</i>	<i>Vuylstekeara</i>
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# A BIT OF THE ORCHIDS' HISTORY

From the website [www.delfinadearaujo.com](http://www.delfinadearaujo.com)  
submitted by David Graham

Although the scientist affirm that the origins of orchids date back 120 million years, it seems that its history started in Japan or China just 3.000 or 4.000 years ago.

The Chinese word for orchids (lan) has appeared in Chinese herbal medicine writings since that time. However, it isn't known when man began to cultivate them, or even if the cultivation happened for esthetic reasons or for medical purposes only or for both.

The first reference found was made by Sheng Nung, Chinese emperor, when he gave some advice about the Dendrobium's application in medical usage.

Confucius (551-479 before Christ) also mentioned the orchids' scent.

In the 3rd century, a Chinese manuscript mentioned two species which are nowadays known as Cymbidium ensifolium and Dendrobium moniliforme.

In old Chinese manuscripts, dated 290-370 (after Christ), there are some direct referrals to orchids the most common being of the genera Vanda, Dendrobium or Cymbidium with the Cymbidium being the most often mentioned of the three.

In the Western Hemisphere, the oldest reference found was by Theophrastus, a pupil of Aristotle, and a scholar considered by many as the father of Botany.

Around 300 BC, in a study entitled "Inquiry into Plants", he mentioned the word "orchis" to denominate some of the orchid's terrestrial species which gave origin to the name of the whole family (Orchidaceae).

"Orkhis" is the Greek word for testicles and in spite of being the first one to mention it, probably Theophrastus wasn't the first one to observe the resemblance between the roots of some terrestrial orchids (which vegetate in Europe in intermediate zones) and testicles. Even now these species are known by the same name (Orchis maculata, simia, mascula, spectabilis).

*continued on page 8*

## Members and Advertisers

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 619.269.3445 or at [editor@sdorchids.com](mailto:editor@sdorchids.com)

Advertisers please contact Marjorie Kuhlmann at 858.675.0885 or [kuhlmann@utm.net](mailto:kuhlmann@utm.net) under the same deadline.

## The San Diego County Orchid Society BOARD MEMBERS

President	Gary Pierwola
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2000-2003	Sam DeMaria
2001-2004	David Graham

## SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

**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

<b>Beginner's Class:</b>	<b>6:30 pm, Room 104</b>
<b>General Meeting:</b>	<b>7:30 pm, Room 101</b>

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 Folmer, 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

## 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,  
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Edith and Leno Galvan - 619.441.7503

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Bud Close - 619.444.8839

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

New Member & Novice Class Information  
Ivan and Rosemary Harrison 619.448.3312

## DATES TO REMEMBER...

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 am  
SDCOS Species Group Meeting  
First Saturday each month  
Paul or Ann Tuskes 858.274.5829

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm  
Beginner's Class  
Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm  
General Meeting  
Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
Gary Pierwola 619.426.9108

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm  
SDCOS Board Meeting  
Second Tuesday each month  
Balboa Park  
Romy Reyes 619.447.7597

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm  
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting  
Second Friday each month  
Vista Community Center  
Dave or Vera Stankey 959.498.7122

June 19<sup>th</sup>  
Cymbidium Society Meeting  
Third Wednesday each month  
Carlsbad Women's Club  
Larry Phillips 619.746.5518

June 21<sup>st</sup>  
Zoo Orchid Greenhouses Open House  
Third Friday each month  
Janette Gerrity 619.231.1515 ext. 4306

During the first century after Christ, in a study called "Materia Medica", a Greek physician named Dioscorides who worked as surgeon at the roman troops, assembled some information about 500 medical plants and among them, he included two "orchis" varieties.

During the period between 960 and 1279 (Sung Dynasty), there were written many monographs and treatises on these plants in China.

With the discovery of the new world some other orchid genera , for example epiphytes until then completely unknown, became part of the European universe.

Some old Aztec inscriptions told about how the Vanilla bean was used by their ancestors to flavor a drink made with cocoa. The Mayas also used it. The Spanish conquerors brought the Vanilla bean to Europe about 1510.

In 1522 the "Badianus' Manuscripts" mentioned, for the first time in Western literature, an orchid from the new world, the "Vanilla". This first study of South America's flora informed us that vanilla was used as a spice, as flavoring or as a general potion for good health.

In "Gerard's herbal" (John Gerard, 1542/1612), published in 1597, orchids had been called "Satyrion feminina" because they were considered as satyrs' food and would provoke their excesses of behavior.

In 1688, John Ray, in his "Plantarum History" described *Disa uniflora* as the most lovely orchid from South Africa.

In 1712, Englebert Kaempfer, a German physician, in a study named " *Amoenitatum escoticarum*" mentioned, for the first time, an orchid from the East.

*to be continued in next month's issue*



Membership Chairman - [Vivian Follmer](#)  
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