County Orchid Society Diego

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Volume 73
January 2005
There's been a mistake!
You or your friends forgot to renew! Only 490 members?



Ralph Smith of Leucadia Orchids, passed away. Please remember him and his family in your thoughts.

JANUARY 2005 NOVICE MEETING

January 4th, 2005, 6:30 PM - CASA DEL PRADO - ROOM 104 By Bill Molnar, 2nd Vice President

Bob Hodges, a past president of the SDCOS, will be speaking to us about how to grow Paphiopedilums. Once you hear Bob speak about Paphs, you will want to increase your collection. He makes Paph growing easy. (He still has original plants bought in 1970). His enthusiasm will inspire you to make Paphiopedilums an important orchid to grow. His whole greenhouse is full of them. You'll gain a new appreciation for Paphiopedilums. Don't miss it!

A belated Thank You to Peter Tobias for his talk on orchid conservation projects around the world in November. His information and devotion to saving our orchids is much appreciated. As for the December Novice meeting, it was deleted in favor of the holiday party. Gary and Judy Pierwola put together a fabulous holiday celebration. Gary, anytime you and Judy want to delete the Novice Class for good food and a great party, you've got our vote. Thanks for your effort and dedication.

JANUARY 2005 GENERAL MEETING

January 4th, 2005, 7:30 PM - CASA DEL PRADO - ROOM 101

Marni Turkel is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and has been growing orchids since 1980. A hobbyist grower, she grows her orchids in two greenhouses at her home in Santa Rosa, California. She is especially interested in cool-growing miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into the collection as well. Though the collection has never been counted, most guesses put it at several thousand plants representing a wide range of genera. Marni is a frequent contributor to Orchids magazine with her series called 'Well Worth the Space' and has co-authored several articles with Eric Christenson in recent years. Her articles have been translated into Dutch and German for international publication. Photographs of her plants have been featured in articles for the past several years in both Orchids Magazine, Orchid Digest, Richardiana, The Orchid Review, and The Australian Orchid Review. A working potter for over 35 years, she owns and manages Stony Point Ceramic Design which is a small pottery that produces vase, orchid planters, flower arranging containers and dinnerware.

Marni will be speaking about Coelogyne, Dendrochilum and Related Genera. This talk covers the seven genera that comprise the subtribe Coelogyninae. If you don't already know which seven that is, come to the talk and find out! You will learn about the diversity within the different genera, see both common and rarely seen species as well as learn about habitat and how it relates to cultural needs.

NET NUGGETS

Ron Kaufmann kaufmann@sandiego.edu The Orchid Seedbank Project

www.members.cox.net/ahicks51/osp/

The family Orchidaceae contains more species than any other plant family, at least 20,000 and perhaps more than 30,000, according to some estimates. Many orchid species are endangered or threatened in the wild, and efforts are underway worldwide

continued on page 3

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 February issue, please contact us by January 14th.

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@sdorchids.com

Advertisers: please contact Marjorie Kuhlmann at 858.675.0885 or m_kuhlmann@sbcglobal.net under the same deadline as in bold above.

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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 <u>first Tuesday of each month</u> 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

January 8-9

Peninsula Orchid Society Show, Fair Oaks Community Center, 2600 Middlefield Rd., Redwood City, CA. Contact: Rene Biggs, 1051 Riverton Dr., San Carlos, CA 94070; 650.593.4793.

January 19

Orange County Orchid Society Annual Auction, Yorba Linda Public Library, 18181 Imperial Hwy., Yorba Linda, CA. Contact: Sandy Walters, 714.826.2279.

January 22 - 23

San Diego County Orchid Society mini Show, Casa Del Prado,

Room 101, Balboa Park Plant drop off:

Friday 4pm - 7pm

Sat 8 - 9am

Public:

Sat 9am - 5pm Sun 10 - 4pm

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@dslextreme.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



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NET NUGGETS from page 1

to save some of these through a number of mechanisms, including habitat protection as well as ex situ conservation. An important part of ex situ conservation involves maintaining orchid plants in cultivation. This process can remove collecting pressure on wild populations and preserve the existence of species that otherwise would go extinct. Established in December, 1996, the Orchid Seedbank Project (OSP) facilitates ex situ conservation by serving as a clearinghouse to distribute orchid seed from people who have it to those who are willing to sow the seed and raise orchid plants. Besides distributing seed, the OSP works with recognized orchid experts as well as conservation organizations to make sure that especially rare seed is directed to people who are experienced in orchid propagation. The web site offers seeds for sale at a

very reasonable price, as well as supplies that are necessary for sowing the seed and raising orchid seedlings. For anyone interested in raising orchids from seed, the site contains a wealth of information on the techniques and materials necessary to be successful. The project director, Aaron Hicks, has written a handbook on asymbiotic techniques for orchid germination, and this is available through the web site as well. If you're interested in supporting orchid conservation by exchanging seed with other orchid growers, or if you've always wanted to try your hand at raising orchids from seed, be sure to visit the OSP web site.

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January/February Orchid Checklist

Prepared by Ned Nash and James Rose.

Cattleya Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

Cymbidium We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

Lycaste The most glorious of all orchids, Lycaste, will be moving toward their flowering season. Make sure the palm-like leaves do not interfere with the emerging inflorescences. Tying them loosely together often is helpful. Some growers cut the leaves off at the pseudobulb, but this removes part of the attractiveness of this elegant orchid. Resist picking up the plant to inspect those beautiful buds and then setting it down in all different directions as the flower buds will be forced to re-orient themselves to the light source each time and will not open as nicely as they should. Keep plants a little drier during the shorter days.

Odontoglossums Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using Oncidium and Brassia, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.

Paphiopedilum The standard Paphiopedilum insignederived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to

pot a paphiopedilum, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.

Phalaenopsis Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of phalaenopsis at orchid shows and sales.

Zygopetalum For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some reporting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.



HELP WITH THE NEWSLETTER

by Marjorie Kuhlmann

I've had help from Helen Odom and Ethel Warner over the past few years in readying the newsletters for mailing. Time and circumstances have made it where they can no longer help, and I want to thank them for being there and for their service to SDCOS.

I need a couple of people that I can count on to help out on a once a month basis, usually a Friday or Monday, one week before the meeting. Every once in a while it may be a little earlier as we anticipate heavy mail during that mailing time (ie: Elections, Holiday mail, etc.).

I live in Rancho Bernardo and take the mailings to the Carmel Mountain Postoffice, so prefer to do the mailing as my home as it's too much to lug all the materials around. (If we are here during lunch time, I'll even provide lunch!)

If you are available please call me at: 858.675.0885 or email me at: m_kuhlmann@sbcglobal.net

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DATES TO REMEMBER...

January 3rd, 7:00 pm Quail Botanical Gardens Judging Center First Monday each month Encinitas. Bring your plants! Make those judges work!

January 4th, 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

January 8th, 9:00 am SDCOS Species Group Meeting First Saturday each month Paul or Ann Tuskes 858.274.5829 January 11th, 7:00 pm SDCOS Board Meeting Second Tuesday each month Balboa Park Lynn Dornfeld 619.889.4612

January 15th, 9 am Hybrid Orchid Group Third Saturday each month Helmut Rohrl Applied Physics & Mathematics Bldg. UCSD Info: 858.452.0976

January 19th
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

January 21st, 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

January 21st, 6:45 pm Palomar Orchid Society Meeting Third Friday each month The Carlsbad Women's Club Melana Walding, 760.295.7228

January 22nd - 23rd San Diego County Orchid Society mini Show, Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa

h st Carlsbad Women's: 760.753.6952 Have a SAFE and HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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