



San Diego County Orchid Society

Volume 146
March 2011

NOVICE MEETING

March 1, 6:30 PM—Casa Del Prado—Room 101

With the upcoming annual show at the Scottish Rite Center at the end of the month I would like to encourage you to participate in the Amateur Tabletop Display section inaugurated at our 2010 show.

This section is included in judging and is awarded. This is an opportunity for you to show your creative side and have some fun. The few tabletop displays entered last year showcased orchids in personalized, imaginative arrangements. Tabletop displays need not be elaborate nor do they require you to have many orchids. A display can include as few as two or three orchids. The idea here is to present them in an attractive manner to accentuate the flowers' beauty with the use of color, arrangement and combination of orchid flowers and greenery.

To get you started I will show you some ideas with example displays and discuss the following sections/classes. Rules will be covered as well—yes, there are a few simple rules.

SECTION 16 OPEN

- A. ORCHID PLANTS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT ON A TABLE TOP 4'x 4'
- B. ORCHID PLANTS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT ON A 4 X 4 FLOOR DISPLAY
- C. ORCHID PLANTS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT ON A MAXIMUM 2' x 2' TABLETOP

Continued on page 9...

GENERAL MEETING

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

By Bruce Berg, 1st Vice President

Thank you, Peter Lin for your whirlwind trip around the world looking at some very interesting and unusual orchids! Those who missed Peter's talk, missed out on an interesting review of orchids from around the world with information on some of the common plants we are familiar with as well as some very exotic plants that should also be able to find a home in our collections. Understanding how the plants grow in the wilds gives us some hints on how we can grow our plants in our collections. The talk was very well presented and a lively question and answer period afterwards indicated that the audience was interested in his talk.

Our March meeting will feature Neal Biggart who will give us an introduction to orchid genet-

ics. This should be an interesting talk because she will be helping us understand not only some of the basics of orchid genetics, but also she will help us with some of the nomenclature used in describing just exactly what genetics is all about. Neal Biggart describes herself as an Environmental Toxicologist, a designation that describes her lifelong interest in the natural world and the risks posed to living organisms by toxic compounds in food, water, and soil. She earned a Ph.D. in Genetics at UC-Berkeley, developed a research program that allowed her to demonstrate that heavy metals such as nickel, chromium, and cadmium cause specific mutations in human cells that can lead to cancer, and for the last ten years of her career, taught Bi-

Continued on page 11....

San Diego County Orchid Society

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.

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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 104

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 batescroom@cox.net.

Advertisers

Please contact Carol Berg at winklerca@yahoo.com.

Information for the April newsletter must be submitted by March 15.

San Diego County Orchid Society Presents
 Orchid Show and Sale
 March 25, 26, 27
 2011
 Orchid Magic
 Admission \$7
 Children under 12 \$5
 Weekend Pass \$19
 Scottish Rite Center
 1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, Ca 92108
 Friday, 4:00pm-8:00pm
 Saturday, 9:00am - 6:00pm
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 GENERAL ADMISSION: \$12
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WWW.SBORCHIDSHOW.COM

Orchid Dates to Remember

March 1, 6:30 p.m

SDCOS Novice Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room **101**

March 1, 7:30 p.m

SDCOS General Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

March 2

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

March 3, 7:00 PM

SDCOS Board Meeting

Thursday following the General Meeting

Balboa Park, Rm. 104

March 5

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

March 16

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

March 18

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

September 18-19, 2010

March 5-6

South Bay Orchid Society

Spring Show and Sale

Torrance Cultural Arts Center

3330 Civic Center Drive, Torrance CA

southbayorchidsociety.com

March 11-13

66th Annual Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

Earl Warren Showgrounds

www.sborchidshow.com

March 25-27

Orchid Magic

SDCOS Spring Show

Scottish Rite Center

July 23-24

SDCOS Summer Show in the Park

Saturday 12 PM– 5 PM; Sunday 10 PM–4 PM

Balboa Park

November 5-6

SDCOS Fall Show in the Park

Saturday 12 PM– 5 PM; Sunday 10 PM–4 PM

Balboa Park

If you have any announcements that you would like to include contact batescroom@cox.net.

**Get a full color SDCOS
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Contact

membership@sdorchids.com

Monthly Report on AOS Judging at Quail Gardens

By Helmut Rohrl
 Photos by Dr. Phyllis S. Prestia

Judging at the Encinitas site (Quail Gardens, Administration (Ecke) Building) begins at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of each month. The facility opens at 6:30 pm. Anyone interested in orchids is encouraged and welcome at the sessions. Visitors may join the judging teams at their tables, but cannot participate in the judging process. Anyone who wants to exhibit plants for judging but is unable to bring the plants to Quail Gardens, please contact one of the local judges or have others bring the plants to the facility.

At the February 7, 2011 Encinitas session eight cultivars were shown.

Linden Burzell brought in

Cattleya loddigesii with two flowers and two buds on two inflorescences. The natural spread of the flowers is 10.5 cm. Sepals and petals are light pink, fading to lighter colors distally; the lip is off-white, side lobes pink, throat light yellow, striped light pink.

Betty Kelepecz showed

Masdevallia dimorphotrica with about thirty-five flowers on seven inflorescences. The natural spread of the flowers is 1.8 cm. Sepals and petals are dark maroon; the lip is similarly colored. AM/AOS.

Masdevallia mandarina with three flowers and one bud on four inflorescences. The natural spread of the flowers is 8.5 cm. The sepals are white, flushed and striped rose-pink. Photo by Ar-



thur Pinkers.

Harry Polis brought in

Cymbidium

John Wooden (Red Beauty x Solana Beach) with twenty-five flowers on three inflorescences. The natural spread of the flowers is 10.1 cm. Sepals and petals are light yellow marked maroon; the lip is white, marked dark maroon. AM/AOS.



Jerry and Anita Spencer presented

Cymbidium

Sweet and Savory (Cherry Cola x Doctor Baker) with numerous flowers and buds on six inflorescences. The natural spread of the flowers is 7.2 cm. Sepals and petals are dark brown; the lip is white, marked dark brown.



Dendrobium

Rainbow Sun (Hewitt Sun x speciosum) with many flowers and buds on many inflorescences. The natural spread of the flowers is 3.3 cm. Sepals and petals are light cream-yellow; the lip is light yellow, marked brown. CCM/AOS.



Helmut Rohrl showed

Paphiopedilum
 Khosey Helipo
 (Hellas x *mali-*
poense) with one
 flower on one in-
 florescence. The
 natural spread of
 the flowers is 16.5
 cm. The sepals
 are light yellow,
 centrally green-
 ish, striped
 brown; the petals
 are yellow, striped
 brown; the pouch
 is yellow, faintly
 striped light brown;
 the staminode is
 yellow, distally
 light brown.



Phragmipedium
 Cape Sunset
 (Eric Young x
schlimii) with
 three flowers
 and three buds
 on one branched
 inflorescence.
 The natural
 spread of the
 flowers is 10.1
 cm. Sepals and
 petals are white,
 suffused and
 striped pink; the
 pouch is dark
 rose-red exteri-
 orally, white
 internally; the
 staminode is
 white. AM/AOS.



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:

Encinitas (Quail Gardens) on the 1st Monday at 7 pm.

San Marino (Huntington Botanical Gardens) on the 2nd Saturday at 10 am.

Long Beach (Whaley Park) on the 4th Saturday at 7 pm.

Visitors—with or without plants—are welcome anytime. If a SDCOS member 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:

Loren Batchman
 Solana Beach, 858-755-7572

Helmut Rohrl
 La Jolla, 858-452-0976

Ann & Paul Tuskes
 Clairemont, 858-274-5829

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 Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

Visit our website: 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.

San Diego County Orchid Society Membership

We invite you to join the San Diego County Orchid Society! Receive this newsletter and many other benefits, including a holiday party and a free orchid at the end of the year!



To join, please send your check for \$20 for an individual membership or \$25 for a dual membership, payable to SDCOS, to:

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

membership@sdorchids.com

Westminster Orchid Show Was Fun!

By Bruce Berg

It's a daunting task to go to a new place and try to put together an orchid show display. Last year was the first time our society entered a display in the Westminster Orchid Show and we were overwhelmed by the quality of the displays and the quality of the plants. We were invited to participate again this year in exchange for a promise by the Newport Harbor Orchid Society that they would reciprocate and enter a display in our Society's Spring Show.

Helen Pfister, Carol, and I did some brainstorming on how to put together a display following the theme "Orchid Extravaganza." We first had to figure out what an "Extravaganza" was. After that, we played around with different table arrangements to figure out how to display the plants. Most importantly, we were supported by the following SDCOS members who donated plants for us to add to the display: Renate Schmidt, Betty Kelepecz, Irma Adams, Ann and Paul Tuskes, Dave Hoffmaster, and of course, Helen, Carol, and yours truly. Four a.m. came awfully early, but Helen and I were determined to get our plants into the display area early so we could use wheeled carts (the mall opened at 10 am and no carts were to be allowed after that time). It was a nice drive up to LA and it was a breeze to do our setup with no one around to see our confusion.

The show was beautiful. Some of the other societies in the LA area also had booths at the show. The SDCOS display was awarded 2nd place for society displays. This was very rewarding because we thought that there were some truly awesome displays in competition. One of Renate's plants, *Angraecum* Lemforde White Beauty (see top photo on right), was awarded the trophy for the "Best in Class Vanda and Allied Genera." Many of the other plants that our members brought in were awarded ribbons.

There were many of the vendors from San Diego County that we are accustomed to seeing as well as some international vendors and some vendors from northern California.

As we drove back home on Sunday afternoon after taking down the display and carefully packing all the plants into my pickup, we thought about the fun we had and what we might do for the next year's show.



Spring Show Update

By Bruce Berg and Dave Hoffmaster

The Show Committee reports that planning and preparations for the 65th Annual Spring Show and Plant Sale are well underway. Members at the last General Meeting were able to pick up their show tickets. Any ticket packets that weren't picked up at the meetings have been mailed to members. This is a very big part of our show budget and your support is greatly appreciated in making this a successful show again. The Show Posters and discount flyers will be available at the upcoming General Meeting for members to help with distribution around the County.

Keep checking our website www.sdorchids.com/shows.htm for updates and the latest information about the show.

Judging

The show schedule is on the web so that members can start reviewing the Section and Class information. Several changes have been made this year to accommodate suggestions made after last year's show. The trophy plaques have been ordered and will be ready for the show. There are a few spots left for members wishing to volunteer to help judge.

Vendors

We now have 24 vendors (including Conservation) signed up for sales booths. We only need 2 more to have a full show area. There will be some great opportunities here for members to find that special plant to add to their collection from some of the best local vendors in the US and some of the best international vendors who will be at the show.

Displays

Signups for tabletop displays has begun with members submitting requests for table space. We would really like to hear from you if you are interested in doing a tabletop display. We need this information so that we can plan for the display area needed for these displays. You don't need to know what plants will be in bloom at this time. Please either pick up a signup sheet, or print one from the website and forward it to Bruce Berg or Dave Hoffmaster.

Plants

Renate Schmidt gave an excellent presentation at the February meeting on some of her tricks on getting her plants to look their best for the show. In addition to the open areas for displaying plants for ribbons or trophies, remember that plants you enter with tabletop displays, or that you may wish to share with the SDCOS display, are eligible for awards too. Just be sure to fill out 2 entry tags for any plant not displayed in the open areas.

SDCOS Display Booth

Your society will have a display booth at the show. We need plants to put in the display! If you have any that you wish to display in the society display, please contact Helen Pfister, Carol Berg, or Bruce Berg. If you'd like to help us with putting the display together, let one of the members above know because we'd really like your help!

Volunteers

We still need to have members sign up to help at the show. Sign-up sheets will be available at the meeting, or you can email Bruce Berg to help us at the show. We can't do the show without your help!

The next meeting of the Show Committee will be on March 3rd at 5:30pm. Members are welcome. Your Show Committee members are: Dave Hoffmaster, Bruce Berg, Carol Berg, Pam Peters, Genie Hammond, Esther Sivila, and Tom and Barbara Smith.

Cut Orchid Flowers and Greenery

It is that time of year again and as in years past your Society corsage and arrangement workers need your donations of cut ORCHID FLOWERS and greenery to give us something to work with.

This helps to make money for OUR Society as well as give pleasure to our many visitors. PLEASE donate what ever you can, just a flower or two would really be of help and as for the greenery, small leaves are what we need.

Continued from page 1....

D. ORCHID PLANTS DISPLAYED IN A BASKET OR SMALL CONTANIER ON A TABLETOP

E. ORCHID CORSAGE

F. ORCHID CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

SECTION 1601 SMALL AMATEUR DISPLAYS (AMATEUR)

A. ORCHID PLANTS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT ON A TABLE TOP 4'x 4'

B. ORCHID PLANTS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT ON A 4' X 4' FLOOR DISPLAY

C. ORCHID PLANTS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT ON A MAXIMUM 2' x 2' TABLETOP

D. ORCHID PLANTS DISPLAYED IN A BASKET OR SMALL CONTANIER ON A TABLETOP

E. ORCHID CORSAGE

F. ORCHID CUT FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Entry forms and rules can be found at www.sdorchids.com/shows.htm

Sign-up forms will be provided at the March novice-class as well as the general meeting. Sign-up at this time will be required unless you make other arrangements with the show chairpersons.

Orchid Corsage Classes

Yes, that is correct. We are going to try something new this Spring show and offer orchid corsage classes at 11 AM and 2 PM both Saturday and Sunday.

There will be a charge of \$5 for supplies and you will take home your very own, handmade (by you) orchid corsage.

Space is limited, so you might consider signing up ahead of time. We hope you will join us for the fun !!

See you at the Show.



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San Diego County Orchid Society Board Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2011

Attendees: David Brown, Carol Berg, Bruce Berg, Bob Clark, Genie Hammond, Patti Hoffmaster, Dave Hoffmaster, Scott LeBouff and Jack Schaefer.

President David Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Officers Reports

Minutes for the January meeting were approved prior to this meeting and were published in the February Newsletter.

Carol Berg presented the treasurer's report for January. Bruce Berg moved to file the report for audit and the motion carried.

Committee Reports

Winter show—the general feeling was that the show went well and was well attended. Plant sales were not what we wanted but the vendors and all the plants they offer add something to the show so there are no plans to change the format. There was some confusion from plant sales between vendor numbers and prices and we need to think of another way to mark these items. A bar code scanner would alleviate the problem but costs \$650 and is probably not worth the expense.

Spring show—the show committee held a meeting prior to the Board meeting. The major items that came out of that meeting included:

We have a total of 22 vendors that have committed to provide sales booths at the show. We need 26 to fill the sales area.

We are short of exhibits to fill the main showroom. We have 20 vendors or groups that have agreed to provide 8 x 8 exhibits and we need 26. More space will be provided for table top displays. Rules for table top displays has been published but we need more people to sign up for them.

The Show Schedule for judging was published on our web site. All trophies to be awarded at the

show have been ordered and will be available by show time.

We have 36 people that have volunteered to work as judges and 8 volunteers as clerks. We could use 4 more judges and clerks.

Ranch Catering will provide lunches for the volunteers all three days of the show. Lunch will be free to volunteers and the menu will be the same as last year.

Genie Hammond will conduct corsage making classes on Saturday and Sunday at 11AM and 2PM.

Web Committee

We will modify the home page to make the upcoming spring show the main feature. We have included a map to Scottish Rite to help anyone interested in the show.

The web page will feature SDCOS shows and will have a link to provide additional information on our shows. We will continue to list other shows in southern California but they will be only in our upcoming events section.

Jack will schedule another web committee meeting for later this month.

Old Business

We have held the novice class in room 101 for the last several months on a trial basis. The general consensus is that this is working out and we can continue to do so for the foreseeable future. There is still an issue with background noise in such a large room but it will not prevent us from holding the class there.

The motivation behind moving the novice class to room 101 is to open up room 104 for AOS judging. Bruce Berg moved that the Board approve moving AOS judging to room 104 during our meetings. That will encourage our members to attend judging sessions and will allow the judges to participate in our meetings. The matter will need approval of the membership at the next general meeting before we can notify the ASO Judging Center.

There was some discussion relative to offering free SDCOS membership to high school and college

students and a way to promote interest in the Society to people at an early age. The discussion was tabled for a month to allow us define which students would qualify.

New Business

The speaker for the general meeting will be Neal Biggart discussing orchid genetics.

The speaker for the novice class is to be determined.

Bruce Berg moved that we purchase a copy of "The Judge, the Hunter, the Thief and the Black Orchid" for use at our meetings. The cost of the DVD is \$15. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Continued from page 1...

ology and Environmental Science in the AP and IB programs at Bonita Vista High School. She lives with long-time husband Tom, an orchid addict and potter, where she makes ceramics, jewelry, and grows and preserves as much healthy food as possible—all the things she would have done in the 60's if she'd dared. Neal will speak about "Basic Genetic Principles of Peas, People, and Even Orchids." We will be hosting Neal at a dinner at the Prado Restaurant at 5:45. If you are interested in joining us for dinner, RSVP to Bruce by February 28th. (firstvp@sdorchids.com)

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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

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Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

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Bob Swanson (619) 465-2297

Vandas, Ascocendas

Edith and Leno Galvan (619) 441-7503

Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias

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

Pleurothallids

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

Cymbidiums

Loren Batchman— 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 found the tickets for the Annual Spring (“BIG, GIANT”) Show at the Scottish Rite Center in your mailboxes and are happily scalping them all on street corners and returning your proceeds to the SDCOS afterwards. When you run out of tickets you can always make an inappropriately delicate and professional sign (thus showing you have the dough to purchase nice office supplies) that says “HOMELESS: PLEASE HELP. GOD BLESS!” while continuing to stand on said scalping corner, and those proceeds are also always welcome to become part of our coffers. Tanning before going out for us is always advisable to complete the illusion. I have a friend from college that turned this into a \$25,000-a-year job.

The Newsletter regrets crediting Leno Galvan on his legendary soup for the volunteers at the mini-shows, for Leno has never brought soup, as the Newsletter has since discovered. Despite the information given to the Newsletter about Leno and his soup, it was *really* supposed to be about Ernie Acantilado and his pancit. So, stop asking Leno for soup and start hitting up Ernie (and robustly thanking him) for his legendary pancit. (Leno, you might want to start bringing soup. I’ll vouch for you. I’m sure it’s good.)

Contact Information:

Christopher Croom

(619) 583-3804

batescroom@cox.net

Don’t forget to sign up for jobs at our impending Show; we always need corsage makers, set-up and takedown people, security personnel, folks to run the plant hotel, con-artists for the fire inspectors, and seasoned thieves to part the Masons from their beloved goatskin aprons and steal their bricklaying secrets. This is the biggest money maker for our Society every year, so make sure you contribute when and where you are able. (After all, the Society needs money for conservation, to bring awesome speakers to provide you with information, to print this doggerel, to throw awards ceremonies and shows for you, and to coordinate nice parties with free plants for you.)

Happy Growing,
Christopher