



*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 159

May 2012

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

# San Diego County Orchid Society

## Spring Awards Party

May 1, 2012

6 PM



**PARTY TIME!!!!**

Your Orchid Society invites you to come to our Annual Awards Potluck on May 1, 2012, which will take the place of the regularly scheduled General and Cultural meetings on that day.

**Note that there will not be a plant forum nor will there be a plant opportunity table. The party starts at 6 PM.**

We will be thanking all of our volunteers. A PowerPoint presentation covering the Spring Show will be presented by Paul and Ann Tuskes. There will also be a PowerPoint presentation of our hikes in the county to see our wild orchids. Let us know if there are people you'd like to thank for doing a great job this year.

If you are planning to attend the May potluck, please let me know what you would like to bring by email or phone me Helen Pfister at [hrp11@cox.net](mailto:hrp11@cox.net) or 619-222-8873.

# San Diego County Orchid Society

## Board of Directors

- President: [Bruce Berg](#)
- First VP: [Paul Tuskes](#)
- Second VP: [Scott LaBouff](#)
- Treasurer: [Carol Berg](#)
- Secretary: [Helen Pfister](#)
- Directors: [Bob Clark](#)  
Lila Wagar  
Jim Wright
- Past President: [David Brown](#)

## Meetings

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

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

## Advertisers

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

Information for the June newsletter must be submitted by May 15.

## WORLD-FAMOUS

San Diego Zoo

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

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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.

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[casa@orquideas.com](mailto:casa@orquideas.com)



## Orchid Dates to Remember

May 1, 6:00 PM

### **SDCOS Awards Party**

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

*Note: this party take the place of the regularly scheduled general and cultural meetings . There will not be a plant forum nor will there be a plant opportunity table.*

May 2

### **Palomar Orchid Society Meeting**

Culture class at 6:30; program at 7:00

First Wednesday of the month

The Carlsbad Woman’s Club

3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad

Melana Walding (760) 295-7228

May 3, 7:00 PM

### **SDCOS Board Meeting**

Normally, the Thursday following the General Meeting, Balboa Park, Rm. 104

May 5

### **SDCOS Species Group Meeting**

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

May 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

May 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

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

**ORCHID AUCTION**

May 17, 2012  
 Preview: 6PM  
 Auction Begins: 7PM

Los Angeles County Arboretum  
 & Botanic Gardens  
 301 North Baldwin Avenue  
 Arcadia, CA 91106

Laelia Purnila  
 Photo by Eric Hunt

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**Granite Hills Orchids**

Are your Cymbidiums busting their pots?!?  
Are your Cattleyas climbing the neighbor's fence!?!?

It's time to call Darcy, the world famous repotter for  
some help. She can be reached at [619-339-6888](tel:619-339-6888).  
Don't put this off as now is prime repotting time. Your  
orchids will thank you immensely!

For recommendations call Bud Close,  
Jim Wright, or Tom Biggart

[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 fol-  
lowing AOS judges:

Rohrl, Helmut (La Jolla)  
858-452-0976

Tuskes, Ann and Paul (Clairemont)  
858-274-5829

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## Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park), April 2012.

Text and photos by Phyllis S. Prestia, Ed.D.

There were 15 orchids presented for judging. Eight were awarded:

*Sarcoglottis sceptrodes* 'Loren' AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Charlie Fouquette  
Awarded AM/AOS, 81 points



*Masd. ignea* 'Patti's Flame' AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Dave and Patti Hoffmaster  
Awarded AM/AOS, 81 points

*Cyr. Shirley Dunkelberger* 'Ushi' AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Helmut Rohr  
Awarded AM/AOS, 80 points



*C. Loren Batchman* AM/AOS  
Exhibited by John Walters  
Awarded AM/AOS, 80 points

*Bllra. Smile Eri* AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Debra Halliday  
Awarded AM/AOS, 80 points



*C. Phyllis Prestia* 'Bell Orchidea' AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Phyllis Prestia  
Awarded AM/AOS, 81 points



*C. mossiae* semi-alba 'Kimberly Burzell' HCC/AOS  
Exhibited by Linden A. Burzell  
Awarded HCC/AOS, 75 points

## Updates from your President

By: Bruce Berg

It is time to have a party! The next General Meeting will be our annual Awards Banquet. There is information elsewhere in the newsletter with details. The focus of the Banquet is to recognize and thank the many volunteers who have worked so hard this past year to support the Society. In a way, all of us are to be thanked for supporting our Society by attending meetings, volunteering for the many tasks that need to be done during the year, and financially supporting our programs. When we see our members who have worked so hard this year, take a moment to thank them. If you know of a person who should be recognized for their efforts this year, please email me so that I can make sure they are recognized and thanked at the party.

We had a great, fun, Spring Show this year. There were many beautiful plants and displays brought in by our members. We will have a report on the past Spring Show at the May meeting. There are several items that we, as a Society, need to vote on. First, we need to decide if we want to have a show next year. This is a question that will require some reflection by you, our members. If we wish to have a show at the Scottish Rite Convention Center, we will have to sign contracts for the next 3 years. We have not been able to find a better venue for our show. Scottish Rite is asking for a substantial increase in rent, and though the final amount has not been negotiated, it is in the range of \$1500 per year for the next 3 years. Secondly, the new contracts require a \$1000 per year deposit which is due when we sign the contracts. This \$3000 amount must be approved by the general membership before we can sign contracts.

We almost met our goal for income from this past show. We will have to figure out if we can increase revenues enough to cover the rate increases. Secondly, we almost did not have

enough volunteers to put on the show. When members do not commit to volunteer to help at the show, this makes the job of determining if we have enough people a very difficult task. As a result, during the show, sometimes we are short help and sometimes we have more help than we can use. Financially, our members did not support the advanced sales of tickets. Income from this activity netted \$1500 less than last year. It's up to all of us to determine if we wish to continue our spring shows in the future.

Another item to be presented at the May meeting is a slate of candidates for Board officer elections at the June general meeting.

April 3 of this year, we lost one of our long time members, Loren Batchman. He passed away on his 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday after a long bout with cancer. There will be a memorial service at the San Diego Botanical Garden center (Quail) on May 8 at 11 am. Those who knew him are invited. Also, the family has requested that anecdotal stories involving Loren would be welcome. Casa de las Orquideas is having their annual seedling sale on May 19.

So, I'll see you at the party and let's enjoy some good food, good company, and maybe a libation.



## *In Memory*

By: Bruce Berg

On April 3 of this year, Loren Batchman lost his long battle against cancer. We lost a great friend, mentor, and supporter who was a long-time honorary life member of our Society.

The San Diego County Orchid Society recognizes and appreciates the many contributions, support, training, education, and motivation that we have received from Loren for many decades. As an active member of the Society, Loren presented many talks about his work and passion for the breeding of Cymbidiums and Zygopetalums. This is in addition to the many outstanding displays of orchids at our Shows. He also has been a big supporter of the Conservation work of the Society.

Loren was an accredited AOS judge for over 24 years. This past year, he was nominated for the honorary status of Judge Emeritus which recognizes the many years of support for AOS judging locally in Southern California, nationally, and internationally. He published articles for AOS and for international publications on the hybridizing of Cymbidiums and Zygopetalums. He developed and presented training materials for new AOS judges.

In 2000, he started publication of the Cymbidium Society of America journal. He did all these things while also starting and running Casa de las Orquideas with his wife, Nancy in 1976. He was always happy to share his love of orchids. Prior to this, he was a rocket scientist working with the aerospace industry here in San Diego. One of his favorite sayings was "It really does take a rocket scientist to grow orchids."

He has registered over 376 Cymbidium hybrids and over a dozen Zygopetalum hybrids

for which he has been awarded 147 AOS and 126 CSA awards.

In a larger way, he has also been recognized as one of the world's leading hybridizers of Cymbidiums and Zygopetalums. He has been recognized with the AOS Award for Excellence in 2009 for his international work in hybridizing Cymbidiums and Zygopetalums, the Cymbidium Society Hudlow Medal for outstanding Cymbidium hybridizing in 2003, a bronze award at the Tokyo Dome show, and the sponsoring of a new trophy by the Cymbidium Society of America at the Santa Barbara Orchid Show—to mention only a few of the recognitions by friends and colleagues over his career.

We will miss his friendly manner, inspiration, and training that he has extended to all orchid enthusiasts.

Nancy and family have invited friends of Loren to attend a memorial service at the San Diego Botanical Garden (Quail) on May 8 at 11 am. They have invited anecdotal stories to be shared at the memorial and online at: <http://www.sorrentovalleychapel.com/obituaries/tribute.html?url=http://stei-23721.tributes.com/show/Loren-E.-Batchman-93552563> They request that the stories be written down so that they can be put in a book. Your Society has put together a photo book of Loren to be given to the family. They also request that no flowers or plants be brought.

## NOMINATIONS FOR 2012-2013 SDCOS BOARD

The nominating committee is happy to make the following recommendations for the SDCOS board for 2012-2013:

President:

Bruce Berg (continuing)

1st Vice-President:

Scott LaBouff (replacing Paul Tuskes)

2nd Vice-President:

Ben Machado (new)

Secretary:

Helen Pfister (continuing)

Treasurer:

Carol Berg (continuing)

Director (through June 2013):

Bob Clark (continuing)

Director (through June 2014):

Jim Wright (continuing)

Director (through June 2015):

Kay Klausing (new)

Past President:

David Brown

Paul Tuskes and Lila Wagar will be leaving the board, and the Society wishes to thank them for their service to the SDCOS.

If this slate is approved, Kay Klausing officially will join the SDCOS board for the first time (he's been filling in as a director for Lila for the past several months). Ben Machado also will return to the board after a multi-year absence. Ben's experience should be a valuable contribution to the board.

The recommendations of the nominating committee require approval by the society membership. At the general meeting in June, the chair of the nominating committee will make those recommendations formally and ask for a vote of approval. Other nominations may be made before the vote, either by contacting the chair of the nominating committee or from the floor at the general meeting. Board members for 2012-2013 will be sworn in at the general meeting in July.

Submitted respectfully,

SDCOS Nominating Committee (Ron Kaufmann, Betty Kelepecz, Genie Hammond, Pam Peters, Dave Hoffmaster)

## 2013 Spring Show Scottish Rite Center Decision

We have an opportunity to book the Scottish Rite Event Center for March 22-24, 2013 for our annual spring show and sale. It is the recommendation of the show committee to enter into a contract with the Scottish Rite Center for those dates. We will, however, need to put a \$1000 deposit down at the time of signing and that is something the SDCOS membership needs to approve in advance.

We have held our annual spring show at the Scottish Rite Center for as long as most of us can remember. There has been some discussion about moving to another venue as the rental cost at the Scottish Rite Center is going up but it is not the show committee recommendation to do so at this time. We will start making preparations in just a few months for the next show and we must commit to a location before we can start. In addition, any changes we make will impact the effort required to put on the show.



The total cost of renting the Scottish Rite Center for 2013 will be \$15,330, up \$1593 from this year. Although these increases are difficult for the Society to absorb, the cost of similar facilities is going up as well. We have a long history with the Scottish Rite Center and people associate our show with them. It is our feeling that we will lose attendance and therefore ticket sales if we move to another location.

The issue of signing a contract and making a \$1000 deposit requires a vote of the membership. We will present the matter at the May general meeting for discussion and a vote. If you have question or concerns about this and want to discuss it before the vote, feel free to contact me at 760-529-2947 or by email at [davehoff5@yahoo.com](mailto:davehoff5@yahoo.com).



April-blooming *Dendrobium hasseltii* has flowers that are typical of the Pedilonum section of Dendrobiums, with their fluorescent orange lip spots and column undersides on a backdrop of crystalline, lightly veined, hot pink sepals and petals. These grow great outdoors in semi-shaded frost-free areas and need good quality water that doesn't burn the tips of the fine and wiry roots that come out of the bottoms of the pseudobulbs.



*Encyclia cordigera* var. *rosea*, another April-blooming species, is a handsome Panamanian version of an orchid that is found throughout lowland Central America and Northern South America. Lico Orchids traded me some money for this one.



*Dendrobium pendulum* has pendant, bony pseudobulbs that are swollen at the nodes. Also, the flowers last 4 weeks and have 4 colors on them. This is my second pendulum, as the last one didn't like moving to a new backyard without shade.



Our final outdoor-growing April-blooming species photo worthy of displaying here is this *Oerstedella tetraceros*, a Costa Rican *Epidendrum* relative. *Oerstedella* differs mostly from *Epidendrum* in the resupination of their flowers.

# San Diego County Orchid Society Board Meeting Minutes April 5, 2012

Attendees: Bruce Berg, Carol Berg, Helen Pfister, David Brown, Bob Clark, Paul Tuskes, Kay Klausing, Scott LaBouff, and visitors Jack Schaefer, Dave Hoffmaster and Nico Goossens.

President Bruce Berg called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

## Officer Reports:

Minutes for the March meeting were approved via email prior to this meeting and were published in the April newsletter.

Carol Berg presented the Treasurer's report for March. David Brown moved to file the report for audit—the motion passed. A full report on the Spring Show will be given as soon as all the major bills have been received and paid.

## Committee Reports:

Jack Schaefer, our Webmaster, reported that pictures of the Spring Show are now up on the website. All areas are covered with his photographs. Great work, Jack! The hit counter, reset on the first of the month, indicated over 5900 viewers in March.

Bob Clark reported that our membership has increased by 9 new members.

David Brown reported that the Financial Committee will be meeting sometime in May.

The Nominating Committee has identified a slate of candidates for election:

Kay Klausing for Director-at-Large, Scott La-

Bouff for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Ben Machado for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. The Nomination Committee will make this announcement to the membership at the May meeting. This information will be published in the May and June newsletters with the election in June. *The members can also submit candidates for election, as provided for in the By-Laws, Article VI, section 2, (c).*

## Old Business:

Bruce Berg gave an update on the Bell Garner collection.

Paul Tuskes had the culture sheets printed for the Spring Show. Also, he and Ann Tuskes along with Bob Clark spent the weekend before our Show at the San Diego Home and Garden Show handing out literature and selling tickets for our Spring Show.

OrchidWiz has been purchased and will be loaded onto the Society's computer. This will be used at our meetings and various shows to help identify plants for our members and their potential purchasers.

## New Business:

No speakers for May, its Party Time—starting at 6 PM.

Scott LaBouff announced that our June Culture Meeting speaker will be Peter Tobias presenting a SDCOS funded conservation project final report.

Bruce Berg, our President, is very concerned about the operating expenses of our Society. He does not want to continue to operate in the red. He also believes that the membership should have the knowledge of this fact.

David Brown moved that we should allow classified advertising in our newsletter for members who have orchid related items for

sale—the motion passed.

The Board reviewed many ways in which to honor Loren Batchman who passed away on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

San Diego Home and Garden requested that we do an email blast to our membership—we have declined. Instead, we will look into reciprocal notification of events with San Diego Home and Garden.

Susan Lewitt and Joyce Schoof have been advertising SDCOS monthly activities with the newspapers, radio and television.

The date for the next Board meeting is May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Because volunteers were very difficult to find this year, the membership will be asked about continuing the Spring Show. If the Show is to be held in 2013 then a \$1000.00 deposit will be needed to secure the dates with the Scottish Rite Center.

Nico Goossens presented several ideas on improving future orchid shows.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen R. Pfister, Secretary

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

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

## 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

### **Vandas, Ascocendas**

Edith and Leno Galvan (619) 441-7503

### **Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias**

[Christopher Croom](#) (619) 583-3804

### **Pleurothallids**

[Christopher Croom](#) (619) 583-3804

### **Cymbidiums**

Karl 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 everyone is looking forward to May's potluck awards show, which will happen shortly after you get this Newsletter. Don't forget to bring the food that you signed up to bring, and that May's meeting is open to SDCOS members only. The potluck awards show is a good time to get to know other members of the Society while Paul and Ann talk about who won and show slides of those blooms.

There's a huge vacuum in the orchid world right now, as we lost one of the top cymbidium hybridizers in North America (and the world) with the passing of Loren Batchman. While he was too humble to admit this himself, he was simply the most accomplished and important Cymbidium hybridizer for hundreds of miles. Luckily, he has an extremely talented and knowledgeable family to carry on the torch in his absence. Don't forget Casa de las Orquideas's seedling sale on May 19th.

I hope all your repotting is just about done, because as soon as that marine layer burns off, we're in for a real cooker this summer. Of course, it might not burn off until August, leaving you with only 1 or 2 months for having to water your mounted orchids daily for optimum results. That might buy you some time to baby everything and get it optimally established before the mercury rises to uncomfortable heights in most places in the county. Also, now is the time to start thinking about moving all your "bathroom plants" outdoors for the summer if you have the right light conditions for them. Nothing beats the consistently moving air and day and night temperature variations of a properly set up growing area that is not inside a house that people live in. Even if you shower with your orchids 4 times a day, you're always going to get better ambient humidity levels for the orchid by growing it outdoors, unless you live in Anza-Borrego State Park. El Cajon might be "dry" to you, but home living in El Cajon to your orchid might as well be life in the Atacama Desert unless part of your house was designed to be a terrarium for your Solomon Island Skinks. Plus, insect problems can be just as bad indoors, where most average folk don't have their own Lizard's Resistance Army to control them. Silly average folk.

**Contact Information:**

Christopher Croom

(619) 583-3804

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

Happy Growing,  
Christopher