



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 164

October 2012

www.sdorchids.com

CULTURE MEETING– October 2, 6:30 PM ***Bud Close-Taking Care of Your Orchid in San Diego***

By Ben Machado, 2nd Vice President

Bud Close is likely the best qualified SDCOS member to make this sort of presentation. Bud wants to hold this session in open forum, encouraging participation from the floor. He will bring a few plants for opening discussion followed by questions and answers from the floor. Feel free to bring in your plant (taking care to isolate your plant if you suspect virus or infestation).

Please remember that we only have a little over 30 minutes to go through this very large subject. We need to keep the question and answer period

concise and brief. Maybe Bud will avail himself again at a later date.

Bud is a retired school teacher with way too much energy to be truly retired. He started growing orchids well before he went into teaching; in fact he used his study of the native orchids of San Diego for his thesis paper. For several years before retiring and for a number of years thereafter Bud went into commercial orchid growing and sales. Bud is a long, long time member of SDCOS, always there

Continued on page 5.....

GENERAL MEETING– October 2, 7:30 PM **Dr. Paul Tuskes – Landscaping with Orchids**

By Scott Labouff, 1st Vice President

Dr. Paul Tuskes will discuss how to enliven your outdoor space by including orchids in your landscape. Paul's presentation will discuss suitable orchids and their care in this environment. San Diego County has a wide range of climates ideal for growing various orchids outdoors. Additionally you can create microclimates within your own yard or outdoor space by providing natural and artificial shade spaces as well as affect hu-

midity with incorporation of water features.

Paul is a long time member of our society. Paul is a frequent speaker at orchid societies, an author, AOS judge, co-founder with his wife, Ann, of the orchid species study group 25 years ago, and an initial member of the San Diego County Orchid Society Conservation effort which received a

Continued on page 8.....

San Diego County Orchid Society

Board of Directors

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 Second VP: Ben Machado
 Treasurer: [Carol Berg](#)
 Secretary: [Helen Pfister](#)
 Directors: [Bob Clark](#)
 Kay Klausung
 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@gmail.com.

Advertisers

Please contact Carol Berg at winklerca@yahoo.com.

Information for the November newsletter must be submitted by October 15.

San Diego International Orchid Fair

*Dedicated to the Memory
of Loren Batchman*

October 6 - 7



Wide Variety of Rare and Unusual
Orchids, Lectures on Culture and
Care, AOS and Ribbon Judging

Cost: Free with membership or
admission to the Garden.

Bring in this ad for \$2.00 off admission.
Good for October 6-7, 2012 only.

www.SDBGarden.org



Orchid Dates to Remember

October 2

SDCOS Culture Meeting

First Tuesday of the month
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

October 2, 7:30 p.m

SDCOS General Meeting

First Tuesday of the month
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

October 3

First Wednesday of the month

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

October 4, 7:00 PM

SDCOS Board Meeting

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

October 6

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

First Saturday of the month
Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

October 6-7

San Diego International Orchid Fair

San Diego Botanic Garden
www.sdbgarden.org

October 14

Annual Orchid Auction

Southern California Orchid Species Society
www.socalorchidspecies.com

October 17

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

October 19

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

October 27-28

San Diego County Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
www.sdorchids.com

If you have any announcements that you would like included in the "Dates to Remember" section of the newsletter, please e-mail batescroom@gmail.com.



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

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SDCOS Newsletter
by E-Mail!

membership@sdorchids.com

Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park)

September 4, 2012

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

There were 10 orchids presented for judging. Five awards were given, with two awards to one plant.



Phrag. Sue Omeis 'La Jolla' HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Helmut Rohr

Awarded HCC/AOS 76 points



Cyc. Martha Clarke 'SVO' AM/AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke

Awarded AM/AOS 82 points



Blc. San Diego Spice 'Tall 'N Spicy' AM/AOS

Exhibited by Billy Baker

Awarded AM/AOS 82 points



Lc. Merle Brandon 'Mahoghany Hawk' HCC/AOS, CCM/AOS

Exhibited by O. Jullian Broomfield

Awarded HCC/AOS 78 points, CCM/AOS 86 points

Dear Friends,
I am excited to announce the

**Southland Orchid Show at the
Huntington Botanical Gardens and
Library on October 19 – 21, 2012.**

This year's theme is 'Orchid Mystique'. I hope that you will be able to join us and see the clever designs the participants will dazzle us this year.

It goes without saying that the show cannot succeed without your assistance. If you can, please sign up as a ribbon judge, host/hostess, and plant hotel volunteer.

The ribbon judging is on Thursday, October 18 and starts at 9:30. Please come by 9:00 so you can socialize and meet your fellow judges. Lunch will be provided and you will get a commemorative show pin.

The host/hostess and plant hotel volunteers sign up is for Friday through Sunday. You will receive a free commemorative pin and free entrance to the show. Invite your partner, friends, or relatives to join you.

There is a new category of floral designs through the Gardens Club. Contact me if you are interested and I can give you more information.

You may reach me at 909-626-8244 or at wardbrendar@hotmail.com. Thank you very much for your support.

Brenda Ward
Volunteer Coordinator

*Culture Meeting Details
Continued from page 1.....*

to help in any way he can. He has been on the Board for a number of years and at one time took the President's position. He is there every year to help out with our spring show, until very recently he was there slinging around the partitions right along with the young fellows. He has since throttled back just a little, reducing his orchids to his favorites, overgrowing his vegetable garden, and his latest interest, wood carving.

We are fortunate indeed to have someone like Bud to help us.

Last month's presentation by Anna Majeviskis was an absolute jewel. You could immediately feel her dedication and interest in Epidendrums. She stirred a lot interest from the floor with a lively question and answer period. Thank you Anna.



The **Orchid Society**
of **Santa Barbara**
PRESENTS
**ORCHID
TREASURES**
Show and Sale

November 17, 2012: 10 AM - 5 PM
November 18, 2012: 10 AM - 3 PM

- X Beautiful & Educational Displays
- X *Laelia anceps* on Parade
- X Orchids for Sale
- X AOS, CSA, & Ribbon Judging

Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2599 Puesta del Sol Road, Santa Barbara, CA
Show FREE with Museum Admission, Museum FREE on Sunday Nov. 18th
Museum: \$10 Adults, \$7 Seniors & Ages 13-17, \$6 Ages 3-12
Info: fmorchids@hotmail.com or www.orchidsb.net

WORLD-FAMOUS

San Diego Zoo

SENIOR PASS (over 60 years of age):

Yearly rate \$54 single and \$75 dual
Renewal rates: \$37 single and \$59 dual

DUAL MEMBERSHIP (under 59 years of age):

Yearly rate \$109.
Renewal Rate - \$94.

- ~ 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
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SINGLE MEMBERSHIP

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Renewal rate \$76.

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For more information, call 619.231.0251

Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

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www.sdfloral.org

Orchid Hotlines

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

Pleurothallids

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

Cymbidiums

Karl 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

From the Membership Desk

I would like to welcome our newest members: Adriana Alexandru, Isabella Klausing, Therese Long, and Allie Tran.

The new 2012-2013 Membership Roster and By-Laws is being reviewed and you should receive it in the mail soon. I have a reminder for those of you living in the local San Diego area that have chosen to receive notification of the newsletter through our email service. You will occasionally receive a paper copy as we need to mail a minimum amount to get the bulk mail rate. Unfortunately that occasionally is now 2 out of every 3 months. Mailing the bulk mail minimum gives us a quite a saving on postage. We will continue this process until the mailing policy is changed or the membership increases enough.

Continue the good work on bringing new members to the Society. The Society now has three entry level memberships, Individual—\$20 a year, Dual—\$25, and a no cost Student membership. Watch this article for more information about the Student membership. If you have any questions or suggestions for the Society please talk to one of your Board members.

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Updates from Your President

By: Bruce Berg

I hope your orchids have survived the blistering heat we had during the middle of September. I think that in the future, I'll try to buy plants that can survive temperature swings of 108 in summer to 32 degrees in the winter.

There are two orchid shows coming up this month that I'd recommend to all of you. On the weekend of October 6th and 7th is the San Diego International Orchid Fair at San Diego Botanic Garden, formerly Quail Botanical Gardens. If you have plants ready to show off, you can bring them on Thursday, Oct 4th from 4PM – 7PM, and Friday the 5th from 9AM to 12 noon. You can tell the parking lot attendant that you're bringing in plants (or to remove them on Sunday afternoon) for the show and you'll get in for free. If you are an AOS member and show your card, you can always get in to the park for free. There will be AOS judging at this event. Ben Machado is the show chair for the 2012 San Diego International Orchid Fair.

On the weekend of October 27th and 28th, our society will host our "Fall Show in the Park" in room 101. This is a great opportunity to participate in one of our fun activities. Don't worry if you haven't had plants judged before or worry whether your plants are good enough to share. We've all been there. Let's have fun! Plants can be brought in Friday the 26th from about 3 to 8 or on Saturday morning from 8 until 9:30 am. Judging will start at 9:30. If your plants aren't on the tables with tags by that time, your plants won't be judged. Check our website to try and determine class and section for your plants ahead of time. Helen Pfister and Jack Schaefer are the co-chairpersons for the show. They can use some help at the show. Please call or email them or sign up at the meeting on October 2nd.

Congratulations and thank you Joyce Schoof for your theme submittal for our 2013 Spring Show, "Orchids by the Sea."

One of our Board goals for this year is to promote having at least 4 trips scheduled to visit our local vendors. If this sounds like something you'd like to do, we need a coordinator. Another goal is to try and retain our members while attracting more new members. I'd appreciate your thoughts on things we can try. Please let any of the board members know your suggestions. One thing we're going to implement is to recognize new members by name in the newsletter. See the article by Bob Clark. We'd also like to get a short bio on new members to introduce them to the membership.

If any of you would like to write an article for the newsletter, I'm sure Chris would be happy to publish them. It seems like there are only a few members who submit articles and most of those are status reports. Our newsletter would be more informative and fun to read if we could get more articles about orchids. It'd be fun to hear about a trip you've taken and what orchids you saw, or about some trick or two that you've implemented to help grow your plants better. I'm working on two stories now: one about searching for orchids in Idaho and being chased by a moose, and another about a hike we took in August up Silverado canyon and the only orchid we found was in a bar/restaurant...it was a Phal that was a little worse for wear.

Dinner with the Speaker

Join Paul Tuskes and other members for dinner at the Prado before the meeting.

Please RSVP no later than Monday, October 1
Contact Scott LaBouff at 619-248-7300.

Meet in room 101 at 5:30.
Dinner is at 5:45 PM.

*General Meeting Details
Continued from page 1.....*

Conservation Achievement award from the American Orchid Society. Additionally Paul was instrumental in the relocation of the regional AOS judging center to San Diego, now conducted concurrently with our monthly meeting. Paul and his wife often travel to Central and South America searching for orchids in their natural habitat.

Dave Reid of Reid's Orchids will provide the plant opportunity table.

Show Committee Report

The theme for next year's spring show will be "Orchids by the Sea." We had a number of good ideas submitted by the membership and the show committee narrowed the list to seven. The membership voted upon the list of seven at September's general meeting to select the winner. The voting was close but "Orchids by the Sea" won by a margin of five votes.


The winning theme was submitted by Joyce Schoof and she will receive a two year membership to the Society.

Selection of a theme is important as it influences so many parts of the show starting with the show poster all the way to exhibits that will be put up in the showroom. "Orchids by the Sea" is appropriate for San Diego and it will be interesting to see how our exhibitors work this into their displays.

The show committee has proposed a \$35,000 budget for the 2013 spring show and the SDCOS Board has approved it. The budget breaks down as follows:

Advertising, Marketing & Printing	\$5,000
Awards & Judging	\$5,000
Facilities	\$16,000
Food	\$4,000
Sales & Merchandise	\$2,000
Supplies, Copies & Postage	\$3,000
Total	\$35,000

The budget need approval of the Society's membership and will be put to the membership at the November general meeting for a vote.



Southern California
Orchid Species Society

ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION

Sunday, October 14, 2012

Placentia Library
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia
Corner of Chapman and Kraemer

Preview at 12:30 PM
Auction starts at 1 PM

Featuring
Species and Hybrids
Including many plants not readily available from other sources

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Orchid Digest
Orchid Conservation Alliance

Fall Show in the Park October 27 – 28

Helen Pfister,
Jack Schaefer
Co-chairpersons

SHOW TIME - FUN TIME.

Our Fall Show is this month, our biggest concern are orchids and volunteers. Setup starts on Friday the 26 at 2 PM. David Brown will be delivering all the lattice work and supports that we need for setup. Thank you David. Setup usually takes about 2 hours or less if we have enough volunteers.

Plants may be brought in for registration from 3 PM to 8 PM on Friday and on Saturday from 8 AM until 9:30 AM. Judging will start shortly after that. Dave Hoffmaster will be in charge of judging. Way to go Dave. Might I suggest that we check the website to try and determine class and section prior to coming in for registration.

Dust off your orchids, water them well and bring them in to share and **SHOW**. It's **FUN**. Hours for the show are Saturday noon to 5 PM and Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM. Even though the show closes at 4 PM to the public you cannot yet take your orchids. We give the people in the showroom time to look at the plants. An announcement will be made when you can take your plants with a set time of no later than 4:30 PM. Help will also be needed afterward for clean up, folding tablecloths, helping friends and vendors with their plants.

We are also doing **demonstrations** for the public. If you would like to do a presentation of 10 to 15 minutes or longer please sign up. These will be general and basic in nature.



San Diego County Orchid Society Membership

\$20- Annual individual membership
\$25- Annual dual membership

Learn more at
www.sdorchids.com

Newsletter Delivery Survey

As you may or not know, our membership is dwindling and the associated income from memberships is declining. Your Board is committed to provide the best possible benefits for our members. We have been addressing the issues involved in providing these benefits over the last couple of years. We have made changes in our Park shows to help increase revenue and decrease expenses by inviting local vendors to sell plants at our Park Shows; the show committee is looking to see where we can increase our revenue and decrease our expenses while still providing a great show; utilizing more local speakers for our meetings, improving the diversity of our plant opportunity tables; and moving to potluck parties instead of the catered parties we were able to afford in the past.

The one big expense item in our budget we haven't addressed to date is our newsletter. The cost to print and mail the newsletters is the single most expensive non-show item in our budget, comprising about 20% of our entire budget. To get the lowest postal rates, we need to mail out 200 copies to 3 zip codes in San Diego which covers the majority of members. At this time, we only have 140 members who have ask for printed copies of the newsletter. We need to print and mail out an additional 60 copies each month to members just to keep our mailing costs down. The printing and mailing expense for these 200 issues works out to about \$20 per address for each year (\$3800 this year). Additionally, we have been having issues with the printer. Lastly, we have a beautifully designed website where members can easily navigate to not only the current newsletter, but to a library of previous year's newsletters. The web version of the newsletter offers stunning color photos of our favorite orchids.

The Board wants to discontinue the mass mailing of the newsletters. We are asking you to access the newsletter by using our website when you are notified by email that the current edition is available. We recognize that some of our members do not have internet access, or for various reasons, prefer to receive their newsletters by mail. The Board is proposing that members who still prefer to receive their newsletters by mail pay for the mailing cost which would be \$5 per year. The society will still pick up the printing costs. For those who do not wish to pay to have their newsletters mailed, we can have copies available at our meetings.

Your response to this survey helps us determine how many copies will still be needed for mailing or picking up at the meetings.

Therefore, please complete this brief survey, sign, and either mail back to the Society at Box 161020, San Diego, Ca. 92176, or bring to a meeting, or contact one of the Board members with your responses.

- _____ **I wish to receive the newsletter by mail and am willing to pay \$5 to cover cost of postage each year.**
- _____ **I wish to pick up my copy of the newsletter at a General Meeting.**
- _____ **Sign me up for the internet version. My email address is:**
- _____ **I do not want my email address published in the roster.**

Your name _____

San Diego County Orchid Society Board Meeting Minutes September 6, 2012

Attendees: Bruce Berg, Scott LaBouff, Carol Berg, Helen Pfister, Ben Machado, Bob Clark, and Kay Klausing

President Bruce Berg called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Officer Reports:

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

Carol Berg presented the treasurer's report for August. Helen Pfister moved to file the report for audit—the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Bob Clark, our membership coordinator, reported that we lost 8 single memberships and gained 3 student members. Scott LaBouff volunteered to call the delinquent members.

Bruce Berg reported that the Finance Committee has opened an account at Fidelity and this committee will be meeting sometime in September.

Bruce Berg announced that the membership at the September meeting selected "**Orchids by the Sea**" as the show theme for 2013.

Helen Pfister reported that the Fall Show in the Park is moving along as planned. The previously approved yard signs will be purchased for this show.

Old Business:

The Board held further discussions on how to best acknowledge new members. Putting their names in the newsletter was a nice addition. Certificates for new members to use at local

vendors was also discussed. Ben Machado will check with some of our local vendors for their thoughts. Discussion was also held in regards to the license plate holders and what they might say. Scott LaBouff will email his findings to the Board this month for a vote at the October Board Meeting.

New Business:

Joyce Schoof was the winner submitting "**Orchids by the Sea**". Usually the winner receives a year subscription to Orchid Digest. She requested that her dues be paid in lieu of the subscription to Orchid Digest. Scott LaBouff moved that we pay her dues for 2 years—the motion passed.

Scott LaBouff will write an article for the Newsletter about volunteering to assist other orchid members temporarily unable to care for their orchids.

Scott LaBouff moved that Bruce Berg write an article for the newsletter from the **Board of Directors** about the newsletter's cost and other issues—the motion passed. The Board is looking at ways to eliminate providing printed copies of the newsletter by moving to an internet version while still having a few printed copies for members who do not have computer internet access.

Speakers for October will be as follows:

Culture Class—Bud Close—Taking Care of your Orchids in San Diego County

General Meeting—Paul Tuskes—Outdoor Landscaping with Orchids

Plant Opportunity Table—to be decided

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen R. Pfister, Secretary

San Diego International Orchid Fair

by Ben Machado, Show Director

A lady asked the other day, "Where do you find all these unusual orchids?" It doesn't take long for an orchid enthusiast to recognize that the various orchid shows draw a very diverse group of orchid vendors and of course a diverse selection of orchids for sale. For the San Diego region the San Diego International Orchid Fair is the only "other" Show and Plant Sale, second to only the SDCOS Spring Show. Since this a Fall Show the plant stock will look entirely different than what is available in the Spring.

Make sure to attend this year's show and plant sale October 6 and 7 held on the beautiful grounds of San Diego Botanic Garden formerly known as Quail Botanical Gardens, just a short drive north of San Diego in the beach community of Encinitas. Plus, for those who are AOS members **ADMISSION IS FREE** by showing your AOS membership card. With your admission you not only get to attend the Orchid Fair you can also spend the day touring through the natural environment of the San Diego Botanic Garden. This year the Orchid Fair is dedicated in memory of Loren Batchman, a truly devoted orchid enthusiast, member of SDCOS, and a friend always available to help out with all things related to orchids.

For complete details about this year's San Diego International Orchid Fair and a coupon for \$2 off admission visit www.sdbgarden.org. Here are the particulars:

Show Dates

Saturday, October 6, 9 am – 5 pm
Sunday, October 7, 9 am – 4 pm

Admission

Adults \$12
Seniors and Students, \$8
Children Ages 3 – 12, \$6

Active Military, Free (with military ID)
Garden members, Free (with card)
AOS members, Free (with card)

Parking is Free

This is an officially sanctioned AOS Judging to include Ribbon Judging as well. You are encouraged to submit your orchids for judging, either AOS or Ribbon Judging as follows:

Registration:

AOS and Ribbon Judging
Thursday, October 4 , 4 PM– 7 PM
Friday, October 5, 9 AM to 12 PM

(Let the admissions attendant at the admissions booth know that you are there to drop off your plant for Orchid Judging for no-charge admission.)

Judging:

AOS and Ribbon Judging
Friday, October 5, 1PM

For the complete Ribbon Judging Schedule of Classes please visit the web site.

Every year a booth is provided, free of charge, to the Conservation Committee of the San Diego County Orchid Society. The San Diego International Orchid Fair is pleased to support this very worthwhile cause in worldwide orchid conservation. Revenue to support this cause comes from plants donated by SDCOS and sold at local sales. Of course, they too would like to have you participate by donating plants for sale or helping in their sales booth. Ron Kauffman is the chairman.

For further information you can contact me at: Bmach16814@aol.com or 619-660-9870.



San Diego County Orchid Society
P.O. Box 161020
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Letter From the Editor

Dear SDCOS,

Fall is finally in the air, although the air gets so superheated by late afternoon that I've resorted to watering my orchids almost daily. And when it's 100 degrees out or more like it was for a couple of days the other week, watering twice a day or moving your orchids to a dark and shady spot just until the heat wave is over (or both) are excellent strategies to keep your plants from getting sunburn and possibly dying. Most orchids don't fare very well when all their leaves get sunburned, because the leaves stop photosynthesizing and die; if a plant loses everything green on it, it can no longer make food. Remember from high school biology that chlorophyll, the green pigment that turns light into electrons that are then used by the plant to synthesize glucose from carbon dioxide and water, actually means 'green leaf' in Greek. Hence also why fertilizer isn't really plant "food," something we've been discussing recently in the Newsletter.

Burned into my mind is an image of an *Oerstedella schweinfurthiana* that I saw at the home of a dear friend the other day who lives far enough east in the county that his collection had to endure some of the hotter temperatures this side of the Anza Borrego during the last heat wave. The poor plant was almost a decade old, halfway to becoming a 10 foot tall, 3,000 blooms at-a-time, full-blown showstealing specimen. It had five green leaves left because there was no shady spot to move it to and no one covered it with a bedsheet. If the single growth that has the five green leaves left does not produce a new lead, chances are this \$400 plant won't make it to see next summer. And that, ladies and gentlemen, would be a true orchid tragedy.

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Even the most bombproof species and hybrids will eventually burn if the temperature gets hot enough and they haven't been given extra water, shade, humidity, or all three. Don't forget to baby you plants on the days when you go outside at 8:00 a.m. and it's already 80 degrees.

Happy Growing,
Christopher