



San Diego County Orchid Society

*To promote interest in orchids and their cultivation,
to educate by exchanging information and experienc-
es related to successful orchid culture, and to sup-
port the conservation of orchids in the wild.*

Volume 165

November 2012

www.sdorchids.com

CULTURE MEETING- November 6, 6:30 PM Jerry Spencer—Some of My Favorite Bifoliate Cattleyas

By Ben Machado, 2nd Vice President

Now this is a subject that is bound to strike the interest of any orchid grower. Jerry Spencer says the bifoliate are among some of his favorites in his orchid collection and he is going to share a little of what he knows about the best of the best from his collection. Some of these Brazilian originals are considered difficult to grow.

Jerry has been growing a range of orchids for a number of years from within the San Diego region. First, in the South Bay area of San Diego,

now over the last several years in Rainbow at the extreme Northern end of the county. Along the way, Jerry has refined his growing to fit the location. And the refined growing techniques must work because at any orchid show or event Jerry's plants always take a large number of the prizes. Jerry says he has several of his bifoliate ready to show and describe some of their culture needs along with some of the methods he uses for growing his prizes. Jerry is

Continued on page 7.....

GENERAL MEETING- November 6, 7:30 PM Dave Reid—Cattleya and Vanda Culture

By Scott Labouff, 1st Vice President

Dave Reid of Reid's Orchids will discuss the culture of two of his favorite orchid genera, Cattleya and Vanda. Dave has been an active member of our society for the past 46 years serving terms as 1st Vice President and President. Dave is an excellent source for advice in growing all orchid types and currently volunteers as a contact for the North County with our society's Help Hotline. Dave actively participates as a vendor at our shows and is owner of Reid's Or-

chids located in Escondido, CA. Dave will gladly show you his nursery by appointment where you will find robust and beautiful orchids for sale. Dave can be contacted at (760) 728-7996.

Dave will provide the plant opportunity table.

I thank Paul Tuskes for last month's excellent presentation of landscaping with orchids.

San Diego County Orchid Society

Board of Directors

President: [Bruce Berg](#)
 First VP: [Scott LaBouff](#)
 Second VP: [Ben Machado](#)
 Treasurer: [Carol Berg](#)
 Secretary: [Helen Pfister](#)
 Directors: [Bob Clark](#)
 Kay Klausing
 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 December newsletter must be submitted by November 15.




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



You are cordially invited to:
 OUR ANNUAL
OPEN HOUSE
 December 1st and 2nd, 2012
 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Please visit our special guests
 Andy's Orchids and other growers!

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 170 S. NARDO AVE.
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Orchid Dates to Remember

October 27-28

**San Diego County Orchid Society
Fall Show and Sale**

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

November 3

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

November 6

SDCOS Culture Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 6, 7:30 p.m

SDCOS General Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 7

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

November 8, 7:00 PM

SDCOS Board Meeting

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

November 16

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

November 21

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

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.

Dinner with the Speaker

Join Dave Reid and other members for dinner at the Prado before the meeting on November 6.

Please RSVP no later than Monday, November 5. Contact Scott LaBouff at 619-248-7300. Meet in room 101 at 5:30. Dinner is at 5:45 PM.

San Diego County Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale

Free Admission
Balboa Park
Casa del Prado Room 101

Saturday, October 27
Noon until 5 PM

Sunday, October 28
10 AM until 4 PM

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

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

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

There were 3 orchids awarded, including 2 FCC's:



Mtssa. Azetc
'Uschi' HCC/AOS

Exhibited by
Helmet Rohr

Awarded HCC/
AOS 76 points



Den. Hibiki
'Sandra's Delight' FCC/AOS

Exhibited by
Helen Pfister

Awarded FCC/
AOS 93 points



Dendrochilum magnum FCC/AOS

Exhibited by Arnie Gum
Awarded FCC/AOS 92 points

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SDCOS Newsletter
by E-Mail!**

membership@sdorchids.com

SDCOS Conservation Committee Raises Money at San Diego International Orchid Fair

The SDCOS Conservation Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our sales booth at this year's San Diego International Orchid Fair. Thanks to the generosity of the people who donated plants and the hard work of a dedicated group of volunteers, we raised nearly \$3,200 to support orchid conservation!!

Donations were provided by John Alexander, Billy Baker, Lin Burzell, Rex Foster Orchids, Charley Fouquette, Siv Garrod, Bruce Hubbard, Ron Kaufmann, Betty Kelepecz, Kay Klausing, Tom Osborn, Jerry and Anita Spencer, and Peter Tobias, as well as several anonymous donors.

The other major contributor in our success was the effort of our volunteers who planned and set up the sales booth and staffed it throughout the fair. These hard-working people included Siv Garrod, Betty Kelepecz, John Kidwell, and Peter Philan. Special thanks go to Siv Garrod, Betty Kelepez, and Pam Peters for transporting plants and booth setup. Our thanks to everyone who helped to make this show a success. We couldn't have done it without you!

Ron Kaufmann

Chair, SDCOS Conservation Committee

P.S. I apologize if I've accidentally left off the names of any donors or volunteers. Please contact me, and I'll make sure to acknowledge your contribution in next month's newsletter.

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.

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
- ~ 4 two-for-one coupons for Zoo Bus Tour.

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP

Yearly rate \$88.

Renewal rate \$76.

For One Adult.

All of the benefits described above under dual membership.

Prices & benefits subject to change.

For more information, call 619.231.0251

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.

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www.sdfloal.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](#) (619) 583-3804**Pleurothallids**[Christopher Croom](#) (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

By Bob Clark, Membership Chair

I would like to welcome back a returning member: **Norman Towne**.

We had a little glitch in mailing the Membership Roster and By-Laws which has finally been solved. You should receive it before the November meeting. Thank you to those who have agreed to receive your newsletter via the email notice. The emailers will receive a paper copy 85% of the time as meeting the bulk mail minimum gives us a \$60 saving each month on postage. This will continue until the mailing policy changes or the membership grows large enough.

Talk up the Orchid Society you never know who might be listening. The Society has three entry level memberships, Individual - \$20 a year, Dual - \$25, and a no cost Student membership. If you have any questions or suggestions for the Society please talk to one of your Board members.

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

conducting his talk in open forum and welcomes questions from the audience.

Don't be late; this is going to be very interesting.

Last month Bud Close was a hit with his open, general discussion about orchids care. You have to admit, Bud is a tough one to stump when it comes to orchid care. A fond thank you goes to Bud for his presentation.

~ANDY'S ORCHIDS~

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Our **MAIL ORDER CATALOG** features many new and unusual species from around the world with descriptions and cultural requirements, plus Andy's orchid growing tips. For your copy, call write, fax or email us and we will send our latest issue.

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**We are open by Appointment Only,
so call in advance and make yours!**

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SDCOS Conservation Grant Awardees 2012

The SDCOS Conservation Committee met on August 26th to evaluate applications from a number of people and organizations. After careful consideration, the Committee recommended the following three grants for funding. All three of these recommendations were approved by the SDCOS board at the October board meeting.

A vote of the membership is required for all society expenditures in excess of \$750, and a motion to approve these three awards will be made at the monthly General Meeting on November 6. If you have any questions about these applications or the review or approval process, please contact Ron Kaufmann (kaufmann@sandiego.edu) by November 4.

Orchid Conservation and Awareness Project, Syangja District of Nepal. Submitted by Ajay Karki, Kathmandu Forestry College, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Nepal is home to hundreds of orchid species, most of which are poorly known. Nepalese native orchids are threatened by habitat loss, mainly through deforestation, and overexploitation of certain desirable species. Orchids are not well known and thus not protected by government-employed forest guards, who are responsible for safeguarding the forests against overharvesting of trees and other valuable resources yet often permit collectors to remove orchids for sale. Villagers who help to maintain forests (community forestry) also are unfamiliar with orchids, and it is common for villagers to remove orchids from trees, because it is believed that orchids hinder the growth of trees. This project

primarily involves training villagers and guards to understand orchids and their role in forests and to protect orchids instead of contributing to their decline. Total amount recommended = \$2,500

Implementing Symbiotic Germination Techniques in New Zealand for the Conservation of Terrestrial Orchids. Submitted by Carlos Lehnebach, Curator of Botany, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, New Zealand.

New Zealand is home to nearly 50 orchid species that are listed as threatened or uncommon. Efforts to protect this species through habitat conservation are underway, and it also would be useful to cultivate and propagate these species for conservation purposes, such as supplementation of declining populations or reintroduction into restored habitat. However, successful cultivation of New Zealand native orchids, which grow terrestrially, requires considerable knowledge about the orchids and the symbiotic fungus that these species need in order to survive. Techniques to grow terrestrial orchids successfully with their symbiotic fungus have been developed for native orchids in other countries but not New Zealand. The objective of this project is to develop expertise in New Zealand regarding the cultivation of native orchids. This project will involve staff from three institutions: Otari Wilton's Bush Botanical Gardens, Victoria University of Wellington, and the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. Funds are requested to purchase supplies to cultivate native terrestrial orchids and to support the identification and cultivation of their symbiotic fungus. Total amount recommended = \$2,504

Find, Rescue and Conserve Program on Threatened Orchids from the Subalpine Region of Sikkim Himalaya. Submitted by Lalitkumar Rai, Senior Research Officer, GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Sikkim Unit, Sikkim, India.

The Sikkim Himalaya can be considered a biodiversity hotspot: an area rich in biodiversity but under severe threat of biodiversity loss. In this area, the main threats to orchids include yak grazing, tourism at lower elevations and mountaineering at higher elevations. To combat these problems, this project will include rescuing limited numbers of threatened orchids for propagation and later reintroduction; educational programs involving yak herders and operators of tourism companies; identifying threatened orchids in the region and working to include those species on the IUCN Red List, providing increased visibility and protection for orchids in this area. Total amount recommended = \$2,320

New Orchid Species Discovered in 2012

By Christopher Croom

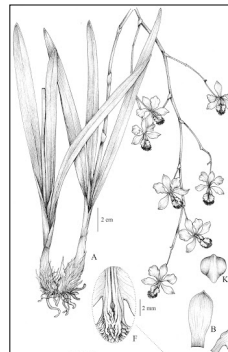
I was just doing some reading about new orchids that were discovered this year. Now, before you start going crazy because it's 2012 already and we should be living in *Blade Runner*-style highrises that we drive home to in our flying cars because we've, frankly, discovered everything there is to discover, bear in mind that within the world's largest family of flowering plants that has mastered every ecology north of Antarctica, new finds are common and relatively frequent. Going a whole year and *not* discovering a dozen or so new species of orchid would be strange.

And as for discovering everything, ask an astrophysicist who has just abandoned string theory after hitching their career wagon to it about how we've just barely begun to scratch the surface of what we can know.



This diminutive beauty (*Dendrobium mucrovaginatum*) lives in lowland western Borneo and has a two-

chambered flower, one of which contains nectar.



Encyclia fimbriata was discovered back in January in the Bahia state of Brazil. "*Fimbriata*" means "fimbriated" and refers to the hair-like projections on the tip of the lip. This species is from the montane wet forest, so we should be able to acclimate it to outdoor

growing conditions in San Diego.



Bulbophyllum nocturnum, found on an island off the coast of New Guinea, has some pretty tiny and homely flowers, but they have some interesting dangly projections around the column. These flowers are also noteworthy in that they only last a day and open at about 10 pm, making this species the only recorded night-blooming orchid.

Add to this list 26 new species of orchid found in Manipur, India; a new species from Nepal and another from Bhutan; and a couple dozen that have escaped the scrutiny of the Google search algorithm, and it looks like we had a fantastic year!

San Diego County Orchid Society Board Meeting Minutes October 4, 2012

Attendees: Bruce Berg, Scott LaBouff, Carol Berg, Helen Pfister, Ben Machado, Bob Clark, Jim Wright, Kay Klausing, David Brown and visitors Jack Schaefer and Ron Kaufmann.

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

Officer Reports:

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

Carol Berg presented the treasurer's report for September. David Brown moved to file the report for audit - the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Jack Schaefer, our webmaster, reported that he is working on a Board Members' page as well as a members' password protected page.

Bob Clark, our membership chair, reported that we are up 2 new members.

Bruce Berg, co-chair of the Spring Show, stated that everything is moving forward. Several suggestions were given to Bruce on advertising for our Spring Show.

Helen Pfister and Jack Schaefer, co-chairpersons of the Fall Show in the park, said everything is on track.

Old Business:

Further discussions were held on how to raise money for the Society. David Brown moved that we purchase 200 license plate holders with SDORCHIDS.COM on the top and I LOVE ORCHIDS on the bottom—the motion passed.

The purchase of license plate holders for later sale will be brought up at the General Meeting for approval.

New Business:

Ron Kaufmann, chairman of the San Diego County Conservation Committee, emailed the Board several proposals to consider. Bruce Berg moved to accept the proposals submitted by the Conservation Committee—the motion passed.

Dates for the January 2013 General Meeting and Board Meeting are as follows:

General Meeting will be held Thursday January 3, 2013, Tuesday being a holiday. The Board meeting will take place Monday January 7, 2013.

Scott LaBouff will host the Holiday Party on December 4, 2012. Sign-up sheets will be available at the November meeting.

Speakers for November will be as follows:

Culture Class—Jerry Spencer—"some of my favorite bifoliate."

General Meeting—to be announced

Plant Opportunity Table—to be announced

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen R. Pfister, Secretary

**San Diego County Orchid Society
Special Board Meeting Minutes
email motion dated September 30, 2012**

David Brown moved the Board via email to honor Bob Clark with a Lifetime Membership—the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen R. Pfister, Secretary

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 to 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 Fall Show and Sale

Free Admission
Balboa Park
Casa del Prado Room 101



Saturday, October 27, 2012
Noon until 5 PM

Sunday, October 28, 2012
10 AM until 4 PM

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

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Letter From the Editor

Dear SDCOS,

I was just reading an excellent piece by Michael Pollan (author of *Omnivore's Dilemma*) on the National Geographic website about how sneaky, deceitful orchids often trick their pollinators and why. In it, he makes claims about the smells of some *Dracula* orchids that are questionable according to my own experience before launching off into a riveting discussion of how good orchids are at tricking the so-called "higher" animals: everything from lowly and tiny wasps to cognition-wielding charismatic megafauna (us). He even goes so far as to posit that the allure of orchids stirs something in human loins, hence the Victorian frustrations about the blatant sexuality of orchids and Georgia O'Keeffe making the same mistake, despite her dogged insistence that what she was painting were NOT genitals. (Upon retirement, I intend to do the opposite of O'Keeffe: paint genitals and insist the whole time that they are NOT flowers.)

Contact Information:

Christopher Croom

(619) 583-3804

batescroom@cox.net

Pollan's article starts to get really interesting when he discusses the curious case of the Australian tongue orchid (*Cryptostylis* sp.), whose propagation strategy can be observed by typing the words "tongue orchid" into the search field on YouTube. This orchid lures males of the wasp species *Lissopimpla excelsa* with a pheromone that mimics females of the same species. This causes male wasps to respond so vigorously to the tongue orchid that they furiously copulate with it, actually ejaculating on the flower. It turns out also that this

species of wasp can reproduce asexually (without copulation and sperm), and when it does, male offspring are produced by the females. So the tongue orchid produces a scent so tantalizing it makes its pollinators ejaculate. Pollinator ejaculation makes the pollinator more likely to reproduce asexually, resulting in...more pollinators for the orchid!

Happy Growing,
Christopher