



*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.*

Vol 182
April 2014

<http://www.sdorchids.com>

CULTURE MEETING - April 1st, 6:30 PM

EASY GROWERS (no joke!)

By Debby Halliday, 2nd Vice President

Spring is finally here. It seems like a good time to talk about easy orchids to grow and that's not an April fool's joke! There are a large number of different orchid species and hybrids that love to grow in our area. Depending on where you live, many orchids will grow very happily outdoors with just a little shade and water.

Helen Pfister will be our speaker this month. She has been in the SDCOS since 2005 and has served as secretary for the society for the past two years. She has also been on judging teams and helped set up displays for the society at many different shows. From struggling to get her phalaenopsis to bloom when she began, Helen made the most of the

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GENERAL MEETING - April 1st, 7:30 PM

South American Slipper Orchids: Habitats and Conservation

By Scott Labouff, 1st Vice President

Ron Kaufmann will present "South American Slipper Orchids: Habitats and Conservation". Having traveled extensively to view orchids in the wild in South America, Ron is an authority in the slipper orchids of this continent. He will show South American slipper orchids in the wild, illustrating the habitats in which they grow and the considerations for their conservation and horticulture.

South American slipper orchids have caused quite a bit of commotion in the orchid world over the past several

decades, from the description of *Phragmipedium besseae* in the early 1980's through the discovery of *P. kovachii* just over 10 years ago. Like their Old World relatives, the Paphiopedilums, some New World slipper orchids have been subjected to considerable collecting pressure, a practice that presents challenges for conservation of these magnificent orchids.

continued on page 3

March 2014

Update from your president

by: Bruce Berg

Thank you's: Gee it sure takes a lot of work to put on the Spring Show. When you see Dave Hoffmaster, and the show committee members: Carol Berg, Patti Hoffmaster, Jack Schaefer, Pam Peters, Susan Lewitt, Joyce Schoof, Genie Hammond, Laura Nolan, Scott La Bouff, and Esther Sevila, be sure to thank them. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you who have volunteered to make this the best show yet.

County Fair: Your society will be participating in the 2014 San Diego County Fair with a display booth to showcase your society and give the public information about our upcoming shows. We will have one day at the fair identified as "Orchid Day." Charlie Fouquette will be giving a talk to the public on orchids. In addition to this, members are encouraged to enter plants for ribbon judging. In addition to winning ribbons for your plants, there are also cash awards. More information about the fair can be found on their website. <http://www.sdfair.com/index.php?fuseaction=exhibits.garden>. Follow the links describing rules for feature garden competition and online registration. If you are interested, one of our new members, Cindy Benoit, is in charge of the gardens competitions! If you are interested, I think we could ask her to participate in a question and answer session at the May 1st meeting, which would be just before the deadline for entry submissions. The one month long fair has been divided up into four

one week long Mini orchid shows, each one with separate judging. This is in response to a problem remembered by members who were discouraged years ago with trying to predict what plants would be blooming months before the show. It also makes it easier on the plants to water and maintain them. Did I say that in addition to ribbons, there are cash awards?

Orchid activities this month: In addition to participating in the Spring Show, this is the time to begin getting ready for the new growths our plants will be putting on as the longer and warmer days are encouraging new growths. It is the time to divide and replant our plants. In particular, oncidiums and other fine rooted plants would respond well to a fresh mix of medium, since the finer barks tend to decompose more quickly. As you divide and repot those plants, remember that those back divisions would be good donations to our conservation committee to support their efforts. I watch for nighttime low temperatures to consistently stay above 50 degrees and then repot my plants as I begin to put them under the shade cloth in my back yard.

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Culture Class (continued from page 1)

resources in our society and today grows a wide variety of orchids very successfully at her home in San Diego. So successfully in fact that she won an FCC award last year and won Best in Show two years in a row at the San Diego Botanic Garden International Orchid Fair. She also won the Balboa Trophy for her display at our Spring Show last year.

Helen will give you lots of ideas and information about easy orchids for you to try. It's not just cymbidiums any more. She suggests that if you have an iPad, notebook, or other device, you could bring it with you and join her in exploring various websites with useful orchid information.

As Helen has noted – "The wealth of information we can gain from other members is astonishing. At every meeting and show we gain valuable knowledge about orchids and how to make them thrive. There is one thing all orchids growers have in common, we love to talk about orchids."

You'll enjoy listening to Helen talk about orchids, and you'll learn a lot. Don't miss it!

Annual Orchid Auction

Saturday, April 5, 2014

All Types of Orchids!

Preview and Orchid/Items Sale 11:30 a.m.

Auction at 12:00 p.m.

Lake San Marcos -Lake Pavillion
1105 La Bonita Drive
San Marcos, CA 92078

Admission and Parking are Free!

Directions:

Coming from the South: Take I-5 North exit Leucadia Blvd. and turn right. Leucadia Blvd. becomes Olivenhain Rd. which then becomes S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd. Turn right onto Lake San Marcos Dr. Turn left onto San Marino Dr. Take the 1st right onto La Bonita Dr. The Lake Pavillion is on the left.

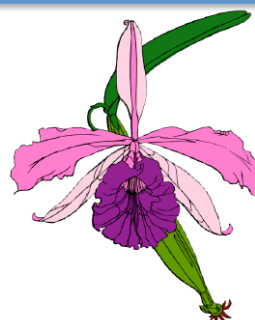
Coming from the North: Take I-5 South exit and merge onto CA-78 E. Take the Rancho Santa Fe Rd. exit and turn right onto S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd. Turn left onto Lake San Marcos Dr. Turn left onto San Marino Dr. Take the 1st right onto La Bonita Dr. The Lake Pavillion is on the left.

Chairperson: orchldy1@mac.com or 760-732-0055

Sponsored by the San Diego County Cymbidium Society

Meetings monthly (except July and August) on the 3rd Wednesday at address above.

Culture class 6:30 p.m. - General meeting 7:00 p.m.



General Meeting (continued from page 1)

Ron has a long-standing interest in conservation and has been a member of the SDCOS Conservation Committee for almost 15 years, serving as its chairperson since 2004. Since 1991, the Conservation Committee has awarded more than \$170,000 to support projects in 21 different countries. Ron is a founding director of the Orchid Conservation Alliance and currently serves on the boards of the OCA, EcoMinga Foundation (a conservation foundation based in Ecuador) and Orchid Digest. His recent projects include a forthcoming book entitled "Orchids of Tropical America: An Introduction and Guide," co-authored with Joe Meisel and Franco Pupulin and scheduled for publication by Cornell University Press later this year.

Ron has been growing orchids for nearly 20 years, starting with a reedstem *Epidendrum* and progressing to a diverse collection that contains mostly species orchids. He grows most of his orchids in a 36 x 24 foot greenhouse and several outdoor shade-covered areas around his house in San

Diego. Friends have suggested that he build a second, much larger greenhouse to accommodate the many plants that often make walking through his greenhouse an exercise requiring extensive training in gymnastics and yoga to avoid serious injury. Thus far, this recommendation hasn't been followed, although the temptation grows stronger every day!

Besides Ron's interest in orchids, he is a marine biologist by training. His scientific work includes studies of Antarctic and deep-sea ecosystems as well as marine communities in coastal Southern California. Ron is Associate Professor of Marine Science and Environmental Studies and the Marine Science Graduate Program Director at USD. Ron earned his Ph.D at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD.

Join Ron and fellow SDCOS members at the Prado Restaurant for dinner before the general meeting. Call 619-248-7300 to RSVP.

The plant opportunity table will be provided by Lico Orchids and Flowers.

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From the Membership Desk

Please welcome our newest members: Evangeline Negrampa, Rafael Acosta-Jaramillo, Laurie Lee, Richard LaClair-Zoehrer, and Catalina Redman. And we also want to welcome Esther Sivila and Lita Escosio back into the Society membership

Volunteering

Signups for the July show are already online at <http://volunteersignup.org/MAXMX>

or you can sign up in person at the monthly meeting.

In Search of Wild Orchids, Agua Caliente

By Bruce Berg

It was an early Summer-like Friday the weekend of March 7, 2014 when members of our society met at the Agua Caliente campground looking forward to seeing if we could find a patch of *Epipactis gigantea* orchids that Nico Goossens a few members of our society, and I had found several years ago. This weekend, we had attracted a much larger group. Perhaps it was the unseasonably nice weather, perhaps it was rumors of Dutch oven cooking, or maybe it was an interest in a campout where we could soak in the natural hot water springs, or maybe a little of all the above.

Nico, Carol, and I were joined by: Susan Lewitt and her daughter Melissa, Dick Chadwick, Lena Shiroma and her husband Cory Krell, and Lena's father Garret Shiroma, Vanda and Spud Mumby, Bob Clark, Ed Perez and Scott LaBouff, and Amy and Rick Periales. A member of the Museum of Natural History, Linda Pardy, a friend of Nico's joined us for camping and hiking. Paul Tuskes joined us after traveling back and forth

We enjoyed a Dutch oven tamale pie dinner by Carol followed by a peach cobbler dessert. Nico surprised us with fried bananas, cookies, and key lime ice cream. Saturday morning, I demonstrated how to cook omelets cooked to order in ziplock bags. Saturday night's dinner was chicken and rice al la Dutch oven. A theme here was our favorite camp cooking. After enjoying a campfire, we went to the hot springs to enjoy the hot water soak. Sunday morning, Nico prepared pancakes, hash brown potatoes, and scrambled eggs. Linda and Cory brought smoked salmon and fresh fruit from their trees. Everyone else brought great side dishes, salad and fruits.

So, what about the orchids? After the breakfast on Saturday, we put on our packs and left the campground on a trail associated with the campground, one used every day by campers. Nico was in his element showing us the desert plants. It was amazing to see all the flowering plants. **AND THERE THEY WERE!** The orchids were in the same location location as before, but due to the climactic conditions

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All memberships listed below are for zip codes 91900-92899 and include unlimited admission to the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park for one year.

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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.



In search of wild orchids, cont'd

over the winter, the plants were all in vibrant growth. It was still a bit early for them to be in full bloom, but there were some just getting started. It was too early to see any seed pods. We did not do a complete survey, but did a consensus survey (not a scientifically precise survey because to access the plant groups would disturb the companion willow and grasses that were protecting them from discovery by the general public) and estimated there were between 100 and 200 plants in the patch.

On Sunday morning, we broke camp, and drove to a trailhead for Pena Springs. Nico had a hunch that the Pena springs area might be a good location to explore and see if we could find more orchids. The hike was a pleasant walk in the desert. We found companion plants, running water, but no orchids. On the walk back out, we found evidence of previous occupants of the

spring's area, stone mutates, and a few pot shards which reminded us that we all are visitors on these lands where orchids live.

(Many thanks to Bruce and Scott for taking photos for the newsletter - more photos on page 8)



Concerning Plants for Judging Sessions

The Pacific South Judging Center conducts three judging sessions in the Los Angeles and San Diego area each month. 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:

Tuskes, Ann and Paul 858-274-5829

San Diego County Orchid Society

Board of Directors

President: [Bruce Berg](#)
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Second VP: [Debby Halliday](#)
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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

David Eveleth at develethos@gmail.com.

Information for the newsletter must be submitted by the 15th of the month.

Advertisers

Please contact Carol Berg at winklerca@yahoo.com.

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

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More photos of Epipactis from
Agua Caliente



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Scott La Bouff

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**San Diego County Orchid Society
Board Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2014**

Attendees: Bruce Berg, Carol Berg, Bob Clark, David Brown, Jim Wright, Scott LaBouff, Debby Halliday, Helen Pfister and visitor Jack Schaefer

President Bruce Berg called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Secretary's report – Helen Pfister

- January Board minutes were approved via email prior to this meeting and were published in the February newsletter.
- No Board meeting was held for February, did not have quorum.

Treasurer's report – Carol Berg

- Presented the report for the month of February.

David Brown moved to file the report for audit – the motion passed.

Webmaster's report – Jack Schaefer

- Information on the species meeting will be posted to the web site.
- Visits to our web site increased after Jack's presentation at the January meeting.
- Newsletter viewing has also increased.

Membership report – Bob Clark

We are up 3 members.

Social Media – Leslie Costello

- Carol Berg reported that Leslie was taking pictures of the plants on the forum table and posting them to Facebook.

Spring Show Relocation – David Brown and Bob Clark

- David will write an article about Balboa Park parking.

- Morena Village is still a possibility.
- David and Bob will be meeting for further discussions.

New members Culture Classes – Debby Halliday

- Cymbidium repotting will be scheduled for May.

President's report – Bruce Berg

• New editor for newsletter David Eveleth. David Brown moved that the Board appoint David Eveleth our new editor – the motion passed.

- The Board thanks Christopher Croom and Eowyn Bates for all the work they have done on the past newsletters. Further discussions were held.
- Helmut Rohrl passed away on January 30, 2014. No services were planned by his family. Discussions were held on how to honor Helmut for his many contributions to the society.
- The hike and campout Agua Caliente County Park, March 7, 8, 9 hosted by Nico and Bruce. The participants have been informed that it is not a sanctioned SDCOS function. Therefore, it was suggested by the Board that all participants sign a waiver releasing SDCOS of any liability.
- 2014 San Diego County Fair.
- Bruce moved the Board to allocate up to \$75.00 for a display area for our society at the Fair – the motion passed.
- Items again have apparently disappeared from our lockers.

Bruce moved the Board to replace all locks after the Spring Show – the motion passed.

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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) 426-6831

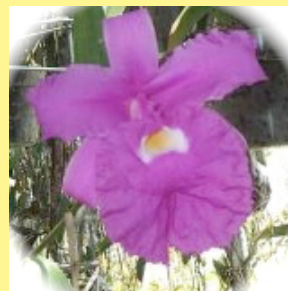
SDCOS is now on Facebook!

To find our Facebook page you can do one of the following:

- * click the Facebook button on the SDCOS website
- * search "San Diego County Orchid Society" in Facebook
- * visit <https://www.facebook.com/pages/San-Diego-County-Orchid-Society/105488126182993>

We encourage all SDCOS members and orchid enthusiasts to "LIKE" our Facebook page and please invite your Facebook friends to "LIKE" us as well. SDCOS posts photos of shows, prize-winning orchids, information about meetings, and volunteer opportunities on our Facebook page. Thank you for helping SDCOS expand its presence on social media.

For more information about Facebook, you may contact our social media coordinator Leslie Costello by email at socialmediacoordinator@sdorchids.com.



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Board Meeting Minutes cont'd

- Paul Tuskes has requested up to \$500.00 for the printing of Culture Sheets for the Symphony of Orchids Show. David Brown moved to fund this project – the motion passed.

First Vice President's report – Scott LaBouff

- Budget for Speakers, travel, hotel and other items discussed with the Board.

Past President's report – David Brown

- The 2015 Park Celebration has been put on hold. David suggests that the society go ahead with the donations of orchids species to Balboa Park. David will continue to work on this project and report back to the Board.
- The July Show in the Park is moving forward.

Spring Show Committee report – Bruce Berg, co-chair

- The large banner with our name cannot be located. Bruce will look again in the garage.
- Everything for the show appears to be on track and moving forward.
- There will be a corsage table this year.
- David Brown is working on a sound system.
- Scott is working on the Best of Section area for the public.

Speakers for April 2014:

- Culture Class – Helen Pfister, Easy Growers
- General Meeting – Ron Kaufmann, Lady Slippers of South America
- Plant Opportunity Table – Lico Orchids

The next Board meeting is **April 3, 2014 at 7 PM.**

Respectfully submitted, Helen R. Pfister,
Secretary

Orchid Dates to Remember

March 28, 29

Andy's Orchids Open House - Friday & Saturday, 10 - 4 each day. – 734 Ocean View Ave., Encinitas - 760.436.4239
www.andysorchids.com

April 1, 6:30 PM

SDCOS Culture Meeting

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

April 1, 7:30 PM

SDCOS General Meeting

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

April 2

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Culture class at 6:30; program at 7:00
First Wednesday of the month
Lake San Marcos Pavilion—NEW LOCATION
331105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078

April 3, 7:00 PM

SDCOS Board Meeting

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

April 5

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

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

April 16

Cymbidium Society Meeting

Regular meeting, third Wednesday of month
Culture class at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00
San Diego Cty. Botanic Gardens—Eckel Bldg.
230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024
orchldy2@mac.com or (760) 732-0055

April 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



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

Dear SDCOS,

Welcome to spring! The season is nicely begun by our annual spring show, with lots of great flowers. By the time you read this, you will have already seen the fantastic plants our members have grown. I promise pictures in the next newsletter.

Now is the time when I think about moving some of the plants I have coddled in sunny windows for the last 4 months back to the harsh outside. The days are now longer than the nights and the angle of the sun at noon is climbing, exposing areas that were shade to sunlight. This in combination with our recent warm weather means we need to pay special attention to keeping the surface mounted plants adequately watered. Remember the saying “You can’t water orchids too much, but you can water them too often.” I’m also betting that with the drought, the mineral content of the water will get worse, so if you (like me) don’t use purified water, be sure to water your plants thoroughly when you water so that the minerals in the media can dissolve.

Anyone with (constructive) suggestions on what they would like to see in the newsletter should feel free to email me at develethos@gmail.com. I look forward to the next edition!

David