



*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 188

Oct 2014

<http://www.sdorchids.com>

## CULTURE MEETING - October 7th, 6:30 PM

### *Building a Home Greenhouse, Part 2*

By Debby Halliday, 2nd Vice President

Nico Goosens of Lico Orchids will be continuing a two-part program on home greenhouses in October.

Those of you who attended the first session should now have a better idea about whether a home greenhouse is the right solution for you and you may have had some design thoughts as well. If you are now ready to take the plunge or if you are still just considering, our October

meeting about construction should be a very useful next step.

We plan to cover the following at the October meeting:

1. Purchase options - Plans, kits, or custom?
2. Materials, construction choices and utilities. Costs.

*continued on page 2*

## GENERAL MEETING - October 7th, 7:30 PM

### *Understanding Color in Slipper Orchid Flowers*

By Kay Klausing, 1st Vice President

Dr. Harold Koopowitz will present "Understanding Color in Slipper Orchid Flowers".

Harold grew up in South Africa where he attended university, majoring in both Botany and Zoology. He then completed a doctorate at UCLA in California in 1968. A professor at the University of California at Irvine since graduating, he was also the Director of the UCI Arboretum for twenty years. He is now Professor Emeritus of Biology in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UCI, where he did research on conservation and ecology.

He gardens in Tustin, in Orange County, and is well known internationally for breeding both Slipper Orchids and Miniature Daffodils. He is Editor Emeritus for the Orchid Digest which he edited for ten years and still works on the editorial committee of that Journal. Harold is also President of the American Daffodil Society.

He has travelled widely in Africa, Europe and South America doing research on orchids and other wild flowers.

*continued on page 2*

*Culture Class - cont'd from page 1*

3. Building the greenhouse – codes, tools, foundation, technical and experienced help.

Nico built the greenhouse at Lico Orchids, where he grows orchids with Lisa Humphreys, and is a long-time member of the SDCOS. He has helped build a number of other greenhouses over the years, using the construction expertise he gained in over 30 years of building houses. He is a very experienced greenhouse grower and has given our topic a lot of thought. By now Nico really understands what it takes to be successful with a home greenhouse. I know he'd like to cover more topics related to greenhouse growing, so we may have him back for a follow-up discussion sometime in the future. Building your greenhouse is actually just the beginning. Fine-tuning the environment, growing techniques, insect and disease control, and maintenance are just a few of the areas that he suggested for further discussion.

Part two in our home greenhouse series could help you realize your dream of having a real greenhouse at your home. It's exciting to have the space and control. Let us help you get there!

Class starts at 6:30 pm. See you there!

## **From the Membership Desk**

Please welcome our newest members: Susan Farrell, Theresa Beatty, Chuck Carroll, and Jane Arnold.

Bob



*General meeting - cont'd from page 1*

Harold has written over a hundred books and papers on conservation as well as breeding orchids. His most recent orchid book is *Tropical Slipper Orchids* and he is working on a new book on slipper orchids as well as several other manuscripts. He has just published "*Orchid Tales*" a collection of short stories that all involve orchids.

Harold has been honored by being a recipient of the Herbert Medal from the International Bulb Society; the Orchid Digest Medal for meritorious service to orchids; the Ralph B. White Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society; the Gold Medal from the American Daffodil Society and recently the Gold Medal from the American Orchid Society as well as the Westonbirt Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society for outstanding achievement with orchids.

Join Dr. Koopowitz and fellow society members for dinner at the Prado Restaurant, before the general meeting. Please call 619-248-7300 to R.S.V.P.

## President's Message

Clear your calendar for the **SDCOS 'Orchids in the Park' Fall Show**, Saturday & Sunday, **October 25th & 26th**, 2014. Check your plants for development of buds and groom these for show this month. You may have a winner. Please **sign-up as a volunteer** for your choice of activity during this weekend. The volunteer efforts of our members make these shows successful. Service as a volunteer provides you with an opportunity to learn and share your passion for orchids with other members, friends, and the public.

I am delighted to introduce our new Volunteer Coordinator and our new Publicity & Social Media Coordinator. Ivan Allen has stepped forward to offer his service as our Volunteer Coordinator. Mary Ann Chanthala has come forward to offer her service as our Publicity & Social Media Coordinator. Both Ivan and Mary Ann joined SDCOS in 2013.

So you may acquaint yourself with Ivan and Mary Ann, they have each provided a few words about themselves. Please give them your support.

### Ivan Allen

I joined the San Diego County Orchid Society (SDCOS) about 1 year ago. I have a small collection of Cymbidiums currently under a Pop-Up. I have just received shade cloth for a 14' x 10' shade house. I will put the shade cloth on the shade house structure whenever the temperature comes down. I have enjoyed the SDCOS meetings – people and plants. I recently attended, and very much enjoyed, a Newcomer's Potting Workshop. At the workshop I found many knowledgeable people who were generous in sharing their orchid wisdom. I look forward to working as the Volunteer Coordinator for the SDCOS.

### Mary Ann Chanthala

I am a mother of two boys, Owen (16yrs) and Odell (10yrs). I've resided in Otay Ranch for

the past 10 years. I am employed at Sharp Healthcare as a Sr System Analyst providing electronic solutions to patient's medical records and other important documents for the company.

My interest in orchids has been for many years, but I never really dove into being a collector until 2.5 years ago when I encountered a life treating illness (an autoimmune disorder). They haven't fully diagnosed me to the full extent as it is still in a very early stage. Taking care of my orchids has given me strength and relaxation. I used to just get my orchids from local super markets (Trader Joe's, Von's, etc.) and didn't care if they had tags. I just wanted them. Then I started researching more about them and started to just get plants that had tags with names. I ordered different types of orchids on eBay. I regret ordering them as the plants never seemed to last due to their poor root system. I've since found local orchid growers that I can rely on for good plants. I attended the SDCOS Spring Show in 2013 and registered to become a member after the show by signing-up online. I began attending meetings in October 2013. I entered the 2014 Spring Show with my Cymbidiums and surprisingly won 3rd Place for Amateur. The society has been great and I enjoy meeting people. I love being able to get information from many fellow orchid enthusiasts! My collection consists of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums, Fred Clarke's Black Pearl and Sunset Valley, and also some species. I recently added Paphiopedilums to my collection. So I have expanded beyond just Cymbidiums and Dendrobiums!

I welcome member's suggestions at [president@sdorchids.com](mailto:president@sdorchids.com).

I wish you success in growing orchids,

Scott La Bouff

## Culture Tip for October

By Bruce Berg

October is the month when, at last, we can look for a break from the summer heat. Some of our plants are getting ready to bloom; others are ready to have water reduced for a winter rest. It is a confusing time to know which plants want water and which want to dry out. The basic rule this time of year is that with dropping temperatures and fewer hours of daylight, most plants need less water and fertilizer. This is one reason some of your fellow orchidists use colored plant tags to mark plants with special requirements. Some plants actually go dormant and can be damaged or die if they are watered during their dormancy. Generally, *Catasetums*, some *dendrobiums*, some *Lycastes* (*Lycaste aromatica*), and other orchids that drop their leaves most likely are telling us “don’t water me.” In case you missed the presentation by Fred Clarke, when *Catasetum* leaves drop after Thanksgiving, stop all watering until new roots are about 4 to 6 inches long in the springtime to begin watering again. When *Dendrobiums* stop growing and have no new green leaves showing at the tops of the canes and when the old leaves drop off, stop watering them and just give them an occasional misting to keep canes from getting too shriveled. When you see new roots and new leaves at tops of the canes, start watering again and look for flowers. When deciduous *Lycaste* leaves drop off, set the pots where they stay dry until you see flower inflorescences starting and then begin watering in the spring. Not all *dendrobiums* and *Lycastes* fit into these guidelines, so it’s always a good idea to check out your particular plant. A good place to start is the SDCOS website culture pages <http://www.sdorchids.com/Culture.html>. Also, check out the AOS culture sheets: <http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=75>. The

Society laptop computer has a program on it “Orchidwiz “ that also has orchid culture information on many orchid species and hybrid plants.

*Phaleanopsis* this time of year need to undergo about two weeks of nighttime temperatures down to 50 degrees to initiate the process to start the growth of new inflorescences. After this period, they like to return to where they can get warm growing conditions, with good light and regular feedings.

**Oktoberfest fertilizer:** In reading the most recent “Orchids” magazine, I saw the article “Calcium and Magnesium” by Sue Bottom with photos by her husband showing what deficiencies look like. Humm, looks like some of my plants. Then I looked at their chart of things to add to the plants, and a synapse fired off. I’ve seen these ingredients before. When I started with the society, I found a recipe online for making homemade orchid fertilizer that is seasonally appropriate. I’d call it my

### Oktoberfest fertilizer recipe.

- 1 can stale beer
- 1 cup Epsom salts
- ½ cup ammonia
- 2 cup water



Continued on page 6

Culture Tip for October

(cont'd from page 5)

Mix ingredients and add ½ ounce (1 tablespoon) per gallon of water, apply twice per month. **Disclaimer:** I haven't tried this yet. I did Google "beer orchid fertilizer" and found this listed on several sites. One problem may be to find stale beer, or whether to use a lite beer, or a lager beer. I also would not use it on a prize plant until having observed it on a test subject first. Maybe take before and after photos of the leaves of my test plants to see if the leaves will look better. But then one of the fun things about our hobby is experimentation. Cheers!

Enjoy the CALIFORNIA GARDENS magazine with your membership in San Diego Floral Association.

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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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## October Show in the Park and Plant Sale GETTING READY FOR THE CENTENNIAL Bruce Berg

It's time to get your plants ready for our next Show at the Park! The October Show in the Park and Plant Sale will be held the weekend of October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> in room 101 at the Casa del Prado Building. Setup will be on Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. Please go online to <https://www.volunteersignup.org/YXFLR> to sign-up to volunteer to help out with this event or sign up at the next General Meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to try something new with the setup at this show. I'd like to see if we can set up and use some 8x8 display booths like we use at the Spring Show. These would be available to any members who would like to put together a display booth, or we could set up tables inside the booth to display tabletop displays. The displays would not be judged. Plants in the booths which would be entered for judging would only be open for amateur awards with the double tag plant entry method for identification like we do at the spring show. If any member would like to have a booth to decorate, or would like to put together a tabletop display in a booth, please let me know. For a theme, how about "GETTING READY FOR THE CENTENNIAL"? The centennial celebrates the opening of the Panama Canal and should give us an opportunity to think about orchids and orchid conservation topics from that region.

You can bring in your plants for registration on Friday afternoon after 4 PM until 7 PM, or

Please go online to

<https://www.volunteersignup.org/YXFLR>

to sign-up to volunteer to help out with this event or sign up at the next General Meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

on Saturday morning from 8:30 AM until 9:00 AM. Judging starts at 10:00. If you wish to participate in the judging, this is an excellent opportunity to gain knowledge about what makes quality orchids and what it takes to earn that big award. You can be a member of a judging team with other members and have fun learning more about orchids. After judging, we will have a pot luck lunch, so bring a snack to share.

We will have our regular vendors, plus there will be space for member sales. This is the best time to buy blooming plants from our vendors that can be those gorgeous blue ribbon plants, or Best of Section plants, or possibly a Best of Show Plant for next year!

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### "The Doctor is In"

Scott La Bouff

Debby Halliday and I have discussed a new addition to our meetings, a format to address your questions or concerns regarding an orchid plant you may have that is not thriving. Perhaps it is on a decline, has a suspected virus or pest, or it has not bloomed for you in a reasonable time. You may now bring your plant to any meeting for experienced members to provide you with suggestions or a "diagnosis". Note: if you suspect a virus and/or pest(s) you are required to bag your plant in a sealed plastic bag to prevent transmission to other plants.

Write on 8 ½ x11 paper

1. The plant tag information (plant name]
2. Your concern and/or question
3. Describe the plant's present culture information. Is it grown indoors or outdoors? What are the temperature conditions? What is the light exposure type and duration? How frequently is it watered?

*continued on page 7*

**San Diego County Orchid Society  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 4, 2014**

**Attendees:** Scott LaBouff, Bruce Berg, Felisa Acantilado, Carol Kerr, Bob Clark, Carol Berg, Kay Klausing. Visitors: Helen Pfister and Ron Velarde.

President Scott LaBouff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Officer and Committee Reports:**

**Secretary's Report** – Jack Schaefer – Jack was not present (excused absence).

August Board minutes were approved via email prior to this meeting and were published in the September newsletter. Helen Pfister took notes for Jack Schaefer.

**Treasurer's Report** – Carol Berg

Carol presented the August Treasurer's report. Bob Clark moved to file the report for audit – the motion passed.

Invoices have been sent out to the advertisers in the newsletter.

The checking account has been moved to the San Diego County Credit Union.

The Finance Committee will meet again on November 9, 2014 at 10:00 AM at Bruce and Carol Berg's home. This meeting is also open to all Society members.

**Membership Report** – Bob Clark

Bob reported that the membership is up 4 new members for a total of 329.

**Spring Show Relocation Report** – Bob Clark

Bob reported that they have spread sheets in process.

**President's Report** – Scott LaBouff

Scott presented the following coordinator nominations:

Ivan Allen – Volunteer Coordinator  
Mary Ann Chanthala – Publicity and Social Media Coordinator

The projector that David Brown suggested will be looked at closer by Kay Klausing and if he concurs, will be purchased by Bruce Berg.

The computer search is ongoing.

Scott invited Ron Velarde, our librarian, to the meeting to discuss the usage of the library by our members. Ron presented the list

of the Society's current library collection. Ron will bring back a copy next month that we will try to scan electronically.

**First Vice President's Report** – Kay Klausing

The speaker for October is Harold Koopowitz who will talk on Flower Colors in Nature.

The opportunity table will be a donation from Tom and Barbara Smith along with plants donated by Dave Hoffmaster.

**Second Vice President's Report** – Debby Halliday was not present (excused absence).

The speaker for the Culture Class will be Nico Goossens. Part 2 on greenhouse construction.

**Board Officer Items**

The Board discussed doing an abbreviated version of the minutes for the newsletter in accordance with the By-Laws.

Past Board Resolutions and motions need to be addressed for memorialization.

**Past President's Report** – Bruce Berg

The By-Laws Committee has been hard at work. Changes to create a Finance Committee that will incorporate responsibilities of the Garner Educational Fund Committee are being looked at in addition to other items in the By-Laws.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

The next Board meeting is **October 9, at 7 PM**

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Pfister, Secretary Pro Tem

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**The Doctor is in**

*cont'd from page 6*

Note any other special or pertinent information concerning the plant's culture.

4. Write your name.

Your plant will be selected for discussion during the Culture Meeting or Plant Forum. Some may be addressed individually. Your patience will be appreciated while we tinker with format dependent on the number of plants. The goal is to improve members' culture knowledge and become better growers.

## 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  
1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA 91108  
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

## Volunteering

### Volunteer Opportunities

San Diego County Orchid Society is hosting the "Orchids in the Park" Fall Show on Saturday and Sunday, October 25th & 26th, 2014. Please sign up for your choice of activity by either: 1) going to [www.volunteersignup.org/YXFLR](http://www.volunteersignup.org/YXFLR), select the activity you wish to perform, and fill in your name, e-mail address, and telephone number; 2) contact Ivan at [sdcosivanallen@gmail.com](mailto:sdcosivanallen@gmail.com); or 3) call Ivan at 760-533-4975.

# San Diego International Orchid Fair

## October 4 – 5

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

Cost: Free with paid admission or Garden membership.  
Free for AOS members (*must show card*)

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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 vacant - see Scott LaBouff if you are interested in volunteering for this position!

### **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@sdorchids.com) (619) 583-3804

### **Pleurothallids**

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

### **Cymbidiums**

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

### **Northeast County, all types**

Dave Reid, Reid's Orchids (760) 310-2153

### **San Diego Central**

Outdoor, all types  
Jim Wright (619) 276-5295

## 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](mailto:socialmediacoordinator@sdorchids.com).

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## San Diego County Orchid Society

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[Carol Kerr](#)  
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Past President: [Bruce Berg](#)  
Membership Chair: [Bob Clark](#)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:winklerca@yahoo.com).

### Orchid Dates to Remember

October 1st  
**Palomar Orchid Society Meeting**  
Culture class at 6:30; program at 7:00  
First Wednesday of the month  
Lake San Marcos Pavilion  
331105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078

October 4-5th  
**San Diego International Orchid Fair**  
San Diego Botanic Garden

October 7th, 6:30 PM  
**SDCOS Culture Meeting**  
First Tuesday of the month  
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

October 7th, 7:30 PM  
**SDCOS General Meeting**  
First Tuesday of the month  
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

October 9th, 7:00 PM  
**SDCOS Board Meeting**  
Normally the Thursday following the General Meeting, Balboa Park, Rm. 104

October 11th  
**SDCOS Species Group Meeting**  
First Saturday of the month  
Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

October 15th  
**Cymbidium Society Meeting**  
Regular meeting, third Wednesday of month  
Culture class at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00  
Lake San Marcos Pavilion  
331105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078  
orchldy2@mac.com or (760) 732-0055

October 17th  
**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 25-26th  
**SDCOS 'Orchids in the Park' Fall Show**  
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

# San Diego International Orchid Fair

Hosted by the San Diego Botanic Garden

Saturday . October 4 . 9 am - 5 pm  
 Sunday . October 5 . 9 am - 4 pm



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

This coupon is good for  
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 Valid October 4-5, 2014 Only

For Further information visit [SDBGarden.org](http://SDBGarden.org)  
 or call 760/ 436-3036 x204.



From the San Diego Botanic Garden -

We would like to offer ALL Orchid Society members FREE admission to San Diego Botanic Garden's Annual Orchid Fair on October 4-5, 2014. You need to present your current membership card or badge to take advantage of this offer. Please share this information with your members. For more details please visit the SDBG website <http://www.sdbgarden.org/orchid.htm>

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<p><b>We are open by appointment only, so call in advance and make yours. Thursdays &amp; Fridays are best for us, &amp; sometimes on Mondays.</b></p>		
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## Additional Savings at *Andy's Orchids*

To be fair to our customers that prefer to visit us at shows, open houses and by appointment to our nursery, we will be issuing Bonus Bucks. \$1.00 in Bonus Bucks for every \$10.00 spent. Bonus Bucks will be offered at all of the remainder of this year's upcoming shows, our October Open House (Oct. 3, 4, & 5) and to all scheduled appointments to visit our nursery.

All Bonus Bucks will be redeemable at our annual Holiday Open House December 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Join us for some holiday refreshments and enjoy our beautiful orchid collection. It's the perfect chance to pick-up something for that special someone's stocking or your own at an extra savings

Please visit us at [www.andysorchids.com](http://www.andysorchids.com) for more details and to see our show schedule. Start collecting today!

\*Bonus Bucks are redeemable at our 2014 Holiday Open House only.



San Diego County Orchid Society  
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1st Class  
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From the editor

October is a busy month for me regarding orchids. We should be having a heat wave as you read this BUT the cold weather is coming and I must face the reality that I have a limited amount of growing space in the windows combined with my wife's limited tolerance for my hobby. This combines with the fact that I have acquired more plants to create the very tough decisions - which plants go to the October show(s) to be sold to benefit the society and the conservation committee, and which ones get that coveted spot in the east or west facing window. This problem is made worse by the fact that this summer was a great growing season and a lot of my plants are substantially larger than they were last winter. My annual pruning of the collection is actually very useful, as it forces me to consider what plants I really want to keep (inside the house for the winter).

I encourage everyone to participate in the October show! Happy Growing!

As always, suggestions for the newsletter are welcome.

David  
develethos@gmail.com