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General Meeting  
Nov. 7th, 7:30 pm

## LAELIA ANCEPS – ITS CULTURE AND HYBRIDS

Our speaker for November will be Arthur Pinkers, talking about *Laelia anceps*. Many of us grow *L. anceps* and its hybrids because it is a perfect orchid for this area. It likes our temperatures and grows outdoors very successfully. It boasts a variety of flower color combinations and sizes within the species. In addition, there have been many beautiful hybrids made with *L. anceps*, which have also preserved its unique suitability for San Diego's climate. *L. anceps* is showy and long lasting. Arthur will be giving tips on culture as well as sharing enticing images of some of the wonderful *anceps* hybrids.

Arthur Pinkers has been an orchid enthusiast since the age of sixteen, when he acquired a plant of Slc. Glittering Jewel (Sl. Gratixiae x Slc. Hermes), which infected him with the orchid bug. His forty plus years of experience growing orchids started in the Pacific Northwest with a greenhouse to fend off the cold

rainy days, but a decade ago a job change forced him to move to Santa Clarita, California, where the conditions are extreme for growing



Lc. Miss Wonderful 'Debutante' AM/AOS

Culture Class  
November 7, 6:30 pm

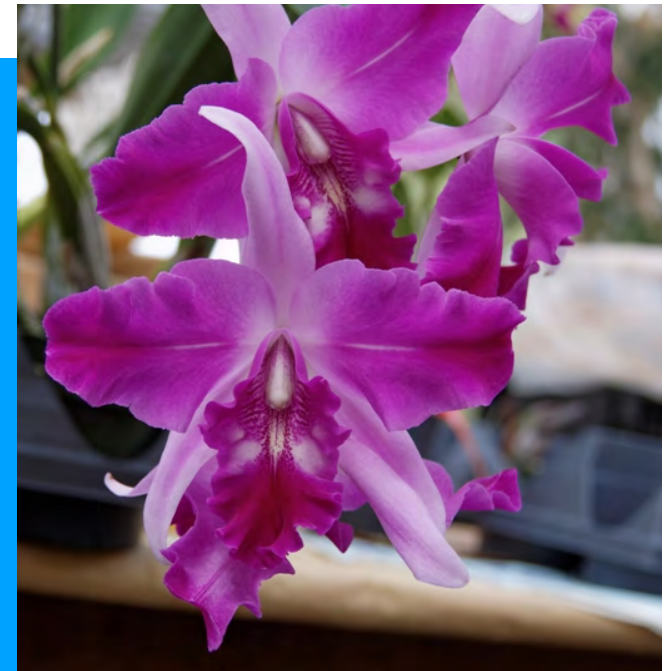
## *With apologies to Will Shakespeare - To Water or Not To Water is Not the Question*

Speaker – Peter Tobias

The actual question is when, with what, and how to water. Peter will discuss what type of water to use and explain why it is all about osmosis (Check your high school biology notes). All your questions about osmosis, salinity, and acidity (pH) will be answered, perhaps. If you want your water tested for salinity and/or acidity bring a water sample in a clean jar, rinsed with the water to be tested.

Culture Class starts at 6:30 pm... Hope to see you there.

Ken Campbell, 2nd VP



Lc. Miss Wonderful 'Flamboyance' AP3184

*continued on page 2*



orchids.

Arthur holds a B.S. in Chemistry and Biology. He worked for many years as a chemist, and had the good fortune of having his dream job as the Lab Director for Beall Orchid Company until shortly before its close in 1990. Despite not having a current career working with orchids, Arthur has taken an active role in the orchid community. He has been an Accredited Orchid Judge for over twenty years, served in most executive positions on the Board of the Northwest Orchid Society, including President from 1988 to 1989, and has been President of the San Fernando Valley Orchid Society since 2016. Currently, Arthur serves as the Center Judging Chair at the Pacific South – San Marino Judging Center and is one of the photographers for the Pacific South Judging Center (here in San Diego). Though he has an interest in a wide variety of orchids, botanicals are a special draw to him for their diversity and charm.

Arthur has been married to his wife, Margie, for over twenty-nine years, and has two adult children and a granddaughter. While they have not inherited his knack for growing orchids, his family enjoys the beauty and wild aromas his backyard jungle brings to their home, a respite from the desert landscape around them.

This promises to be a most interesting and useful lecture. Everyone in our club should have *L. anceps* and its hybrids as part of their collection. Plant Opportunity Table from Santa Barbara Orchid Estate. Plan to buy raffle tickets!

**Bus excursion to the Huntington Botanical Garden for a behind the scenes tour of off-exhibit greenhouses and laboratory, plus a visit to the conservatory. Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Sign-up now before the bus fills up at [https://](https://www.volunteersignup.org/9K3Y8)**

**[www.volunteersignup.org/9K3Y8](https://www.volunteersignup.org/9K3Y8)**

Departure: 7:30 am sharp in central San Diego (behind the Broken Yolk in Mission Valley) and ~ 8:15 am in North County at La Costa Park and Ride.

Return: expected back in San Diego at 7 pm.

Cost: \$40 per person; checks payable: San Diego County Orchid Society; payment required by January 2<sup>nd</sup> at SDCOS General Meeting or January 3<sup>rd</sup> at POS General



Lc. Miss Wonderful AP3177

Meeting. Give checks to Myra DeTate, SDCOS Treasurer or Alex Nadzan, POS Co-President.

- or -

Mail check before January 1<sup>st</sup> to:

SDCOS - HBG trip

P.O. Box 161020

San Diego, CA 92176

This will be a day trip filled with fun! We'll have a docent-led tour of the three off-exhibit greenhouses, housing over 10,000 orchids. Brandon Tam at HBG suggested this time of year to see many orchids in bloom. We'll also visit the laboratory to see how orchids are pollinated, flaked, and grown into seedlings. Cost for the bus trip is \$40 per person. Admission is free! SDCOS will provide bottled water and snacks for the trip. Lunch options are available at cafes and restaurants on the grounds or pick a nice spot to enjoy a picnic packed at home. There is so much to do and see here! Also, you will have free admission to the grounds of the Huntington Library to explore the museums and various gardens. Non-members are welcome too! Sign-up now! Space is limited to 40 persons due to the special tours.

## Cattleyas, Queens of the Orchid World

By Bruce Berg

I am not sure where I first heard this description of Cattleyas being called the "Queens of the Orchid World," but it aptly describes a diverse genus of plant that majestically graces our orchid display tables at any orchid show with an amazing display of colorful, sometimes fragrant, diversely shaped blooming plants. Cattleya "KAT-lee-ah" orchid flowers come in sizes from huge 6 inch blooms on hybrid plants (Lc Drumbeat) with two foot or greater leaves to tiny hybrids with 1/4 inch flowers on species plants with leaves less than 2 inches long (*Sophronitis cernua*). They are a "New World orchid," being found only in the American continents, primarily Central and South America.

Cattleya nomenclature is changing. The taxonomists are currently arguing over how to round up all the various plants related to the Cattleyas that have been discovered and described over the past 200 years or so and are moving them into and out of the Cattleya genus. This is based on a study of DNA and other genetic characteristics whereas the methods that were used originally were based on the physical characteristics of the plants. A plant that you may have known previously as a *Sophronitis* or a *Laelia* may now be listed as a Cattleya. A plant that had some letters before the name like "Blc", or "Slc", may not have

those listed anymore. Those plants are referred to as Sanders described plants. To find out the cultural and origins of the



plant, you will have to do some more research, like using the internet. I would suggest also using an internet search or look on <http://orchidspecies.com/>. For more culture info, you may want to look into Orchidwiz.

Alex Nadzan gave an excellent presentation and cultural handout at the last orchid show. His handout was a printout from the website <https://www.mountainorchids.com/culture-sheets/Cattleya-Alliance>. Rather than reprint it here, I would recommend the reader go to the website to read the original document. Our society website also has a good cultural presentation that I would recommend to the reader.

When I started collecting orchids, I was fascinated by the range in color combinations available in this group of



orchids. Many of them also have pleasing fragrances. They are also more temperature tolerant to my growing conditions here in Santee. Later on, by listening to talks given by growers like Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids, and Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids who are hybridizing to produce smaller plants, I learned that with the large variation in sizes that I could grow up to six small plants in the same amount of bench space as one large plant. The small plants also commonly bloom more than once per year. A side benefit is that at our shows, the competition among these smaller sized Cattleya Princesses is much less than for their larger sisters.

Good luck with growing these beautiful orchids. They can be very rewarding.



## President's message

It looks like our October "Orchids in the Park" Show and Sale Saturday, the 28th and Sunday, the 29th is on the trajectory to become a huge success - we are running out of space for our vendors. We now must rethink the format of future "Shows in the Park" – I encourage members to share their ideas and how we can grow this show significantly beyond what it currently is. Nevertheless, we still need volunteers so please sign up for open positions on our website – we can't do it without your help! The show program is as usual: Set-up is on Friday afternoon, Plant registration is on Friday from 4 – 7 pm and Saturday 8 – 9 am, judging of the displayed plants will start at 9:30am on Saturday (AOS judging will also be held at this show), followed by a potluck lunch in the kitchen area. There will be talks on Saturday and Sunday – please see the schedule and further details on our website.

See you all at the show!

Kay Klausung

President, SDCOS

**Orchids**  
Presented by the  
San Diego County Orchid Society

**October 28-29**  
Saturday Noon – 5 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Balboa Park's  
Casa del Prado, Room 101  
Near the Natural History Museum

*Free Admission*

**Show and Sale**  
in the Park

**sdorchids.com**  
#SDOrchids

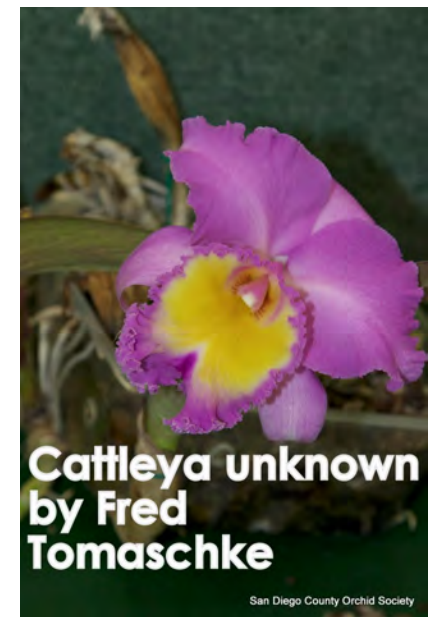


## October plant forum photos

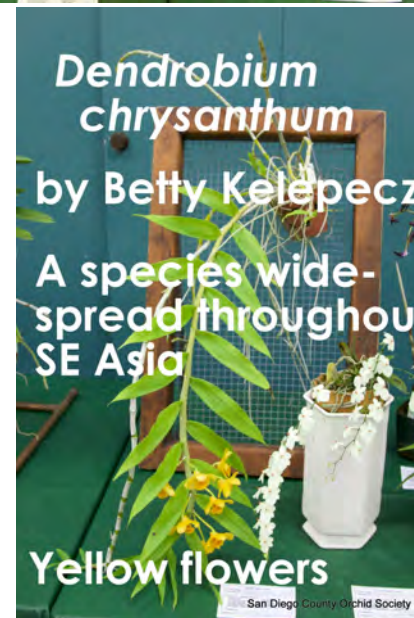
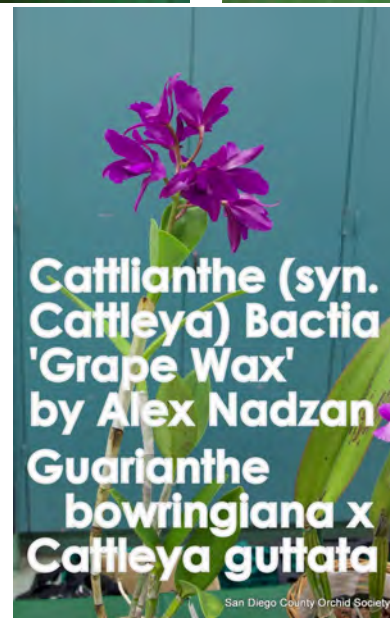
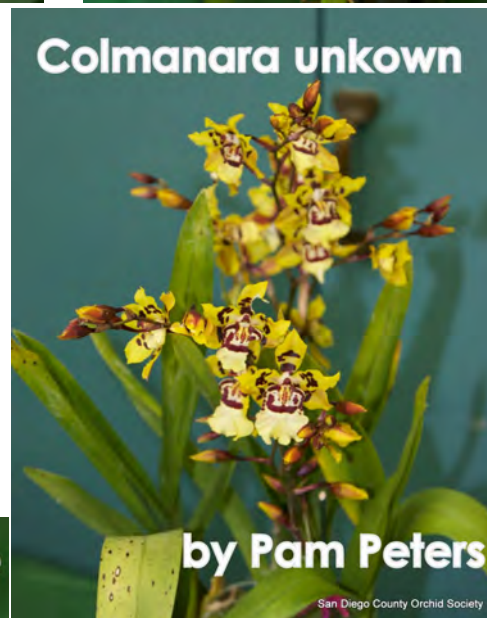
Photos by Debby Halliday, compiled by Scott LaBouff







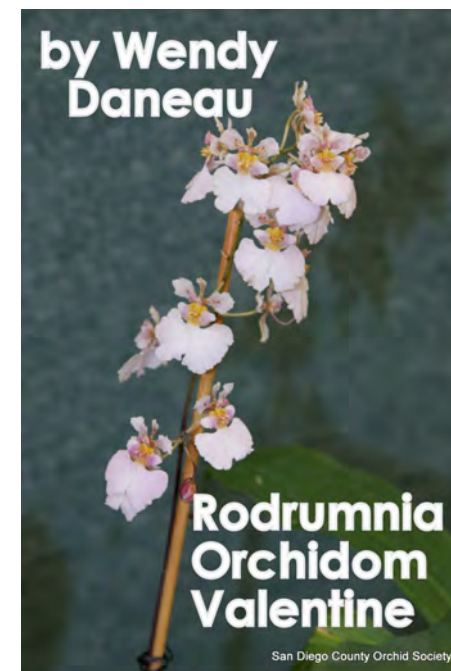
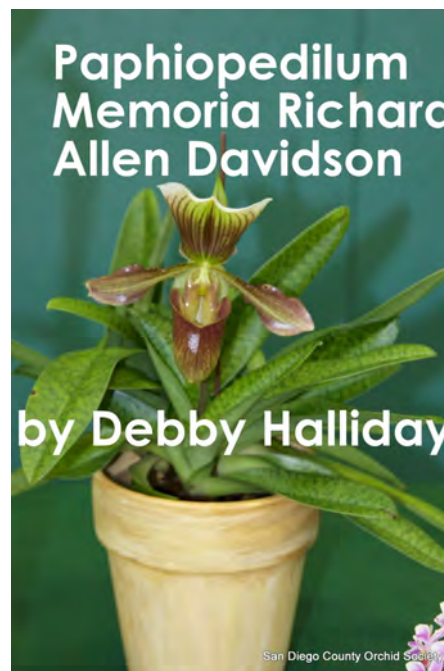


















**San Diego County Orchid Society  
Minutes of the Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting  
October 5, 2017  
Summary**

**Attendees:**

Kay Klausing, Debby Halliday, Tom Ketelaar, Carol Kerr, Bob Clark, Pedro Sanchez, and Scott LaBouff. Myra DeTate and Ken Campbell were not present – Excused absent.

The meeting was held at Balboa Park - Casa Del Prado Building, Room 104. The call to order came at 7:10 P.M. by Kay Klausing, President.

**Secretary's Report:** - Tom Ketelaar

September 2017 Board meeting minutes had been approved via email. Through email on 09/28/17 Myra DeTate made a motion to proceed with the purchase of an additional iPad for the POS system; the motion was seconded. Board members had some discussions via email. The motion was voted upon and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** - Myra DeTate

1. Myra was excused absent and by email had provided Board members the October financials. Board members had time prior to the meeting to review the financials. Kay made a motion to accept the October financials. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and approved.

**SDCOS Conservation Committee 2017 grants recommendation report**

In attendance at this Board meeting was Ron Kaufmann, Chair of the SDCOS Conservation Committee. Ron shared the background in selecting the proposals that the committee recommended to receive grants for 2018. The committee has been successful in raising funds for conservation through sales at the Conservation table during the SDCOS Shows in the Park, the Spring show, and occasionally at Species Study Group meetings. The current set of recommended applications totals approximately \$18,000, which is more than in 2017. For the years of 2014, 2016, and 2017 the average Conservation revenue has been approximately \$10,000, with the 2015 year being less than the average. None of the grants to be awarded in 2018 will exceed \$5,000. Ron described for the Board where the recommended studies will take place and the topics of the research to be conducted. Two of the studies will be conducted near the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; one will take place in a prairie in Canada near the U.S. border; and one will be carried out in Bhutan. In the November newsletter, Ron will present to the membership more detailed information regarding the awards. He is also coordinating with webmaster, Jack Schaefer, the sharing of results from previous projects through the SDCOS website. After Ron's very informative and detailed presentation, Debby Halliday made the motion to accept the funding recommendations of the Conservation Committee for 2018. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and approved

unanimously by all board members present.

**President's Items:**

1. The Board plans to gradually transition to an electronic newsletter in order to reduce printing, postage, bundling, and other related expenses and activities. For those people receiving the hard-copy of the newsletter and who do not use electronic access devices, Kay will be pursuing other methods to satisfy their needs.

2. For the October Show in the Park there are sufficient sales barcode labels already printed but more will be needed for the January and following Park shows. The topic of purchasing a new printer specifically for printing barcodes and newsletters is being considered by the Board. If a new printer is purchased, Scott LaBouff offered to house it at his location, and do the labor of printing the barcodes, and newsletters as needed. If he were to use the printer for personal use, he would be using his own printer cartridge and not that of the Society. There are many printing options available including combination black, white, and color printers. Kay will do the research on this matter and present his findings to the Board at a later time.

3. Kay is formulating a survey of current, new, and prospective SDCOS members. He requested of the Board and SDCOS membership to email him suggestions for questions and topics to be surveyed. He reported that he has been 'testing' various



survey applications. Prior to disseminating the survey, Kay will request Board approval on the final format and content.

**First Vice-President Items:** - Debby Halliday

1. Debby will provide in the November newsletter information and details regarding the November meeting's main speaker, Arthur Pinkers.

2. The SDCOS will maintain a presence at the "2018 San Diego County Fair" but not to the extent of years past. There will be no society display and the proper persons will be contacted to allow SDCOS marketing materials to be placed on a table area near the competitive orchids area inside the "O'Brien Hall" building. Having members of the SDCOS speak at the "Flower Stage" located in the "Paul Ecke Jr. Flower & Garden Show" area is also a possibility and making the proper arrangements and commitments are being pursued. On the days when the SDCOS speakers make their presentations society marketing materials will be available to fair attendees. As was done for the 2017 Fair orchid activities, the money for the SDCOS sponsored cash award for the highest number of blue ribbons in the "Division 5100 – Specimen Plants, Orchids and Cymbidium" section will be raised through sale of tagged orchids at the coming Park shows. It is the consensus of the Board to pursue the 2018 Fair activities as Debby presented.

**Second Vice-President Items:** - Ken Campbell

Although not present and excused absent, Ken had provided his "Second VP Talking Points" to Kay; Kay shared them with the Board.

1. Ken will provide in the November newsletter information and details regarding the November meeting's Culture Class featuring Peter Tobias presenting "Water Type Options". The January 2, 2018 Culture Class will feature Dave Hoffmaster presenting "Pots and Potting Media".

2. The scratchy audio and low battery indications experienced at the October General meeting were due to weak batteries. Fresh batteries need to be obtained. Since Kay receives free shipping, he will purchase fresh 9V batteries through the "Amazon Smile" program which benefits the Society and present the SDCOS Treasurer with the purchase receipts for reimbursement.

3. For some reason, the battery pack in the presentation computer is unable to hold a charge and should be replaced. Since the presentation computer is used only at meetings there really is no reason to use the battery set-up for remote situations. The Board consensus is that if the computer is able to function with a 'dead' battery in the computer for circuitry requirements or removed completely, then being plugged into an electrical outlet should serve the Society's needs and there is no reason to make a battery replacement purchase.

4. A properly licensed version of "Microsoft Office 2010" has now been installed on the Lenovo presentation computer.

**Past President Items:** - Scott LaBouff

1. For the future newsletters, Scott is working with David Eveleth to fine tune the wording, presentation, and visual coordination of the pictures Scott has been taking of orchids brought in for monthly meetings.

2. The number of attendees for the October excursion to "The Huntington Library, Art Collection, and Botanical Gardens" located in San Marino, California is not meeting transportation requirements. Scott is researching other alternatives and will keep registered attendees and membership current through emails and other methods.

**Directors at Large Items:** - Bob Clark, Carol Kerr, and Pedro Sanchez

1. Carol Kerr has received the first supply of the 2018 Spring Show, "Orchid Mardi Gras" marketing post cards and showed the results to the Board.

**Scheduled Date for the next Board Meeting:**

Thursday, November 2, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. – Balboa Park - Casa Del Prado building, Room 104. No other items being on the agenda, Kay made a motion to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded and approved.

**Meeting Adjournment:** 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Ketelaar, Secretary



## SDCOS Conservation Grant Awardees 2017

The SDCOS Conservation Committee met on September 30<sup>th</sup> to evaluate applications from a number of people and organizations. After careful consideration, the Committee recommended the following four grants for funding. All four of these recommendations were approved by the SDCOS board on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

A vote of the membership is required for all society expenditures in excess of \$750, and a motion to approve these four awards will be made at the monthly General Meeting on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions about these applications or the review or approval process, please contact Ron Kaufmann (rkaufmann@gmail.com) by **Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

*Restinga Viva: Training of Public School Teachers for Conservation.* Submitted by Maria do Rosário de Almeida Braga, Brazilian Institute of Biodiversity, Brazil. Some coastal areas in Brazil support a type of habitat known as restinga, which includes sand dunes and associated plants and animals. Flora of the restinga can include orchids, such as *Cattleya guttata*, *C. intermedia*, and many others. The Massambaba restinga near Rio de Janeiro is considered a hotspot for plant diversity in Brazil, but this area is under pressure from urban development and other factors. One portion of this restinga already has been protected as a state

park that includes an orchid reserve. Two years ago, the SDCOS Conservation Committee provided funding for a very successful community awareness project in this area. The follow-up project for 2018 will focus on training school teachers in neighboring municipalities to be agents of change in conservation of the restinga. Field guides that were produced in 2016 will be used to train teachers about the conservation of the restinga habitat and provide guidance in ways to discuss these issues with their students. This project represents the next step in implementing environmental education programs, with a goal of developing a culture that will support conservation of this habitat in the future. Total amount recommended = \$5,000

*Distribution, Habitat Assessment and Conservation Status of Critically Endangered Paphiopedilum fairrieanum in Zhemgang District, Central Bhutan.* Submitted by Sherab Jamtsho, Department of Forest and Park Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, Thimphu, Bhutan. *Paphiopedilum fairrieanum* is classified as critically endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. At one time, *P. fairrieanum* was reported as extinct in Bhutan, but this species was rediscovered in 2014 and 2015 in the Zhemgang District. With increasing development activities in this area, orchid habitat is facing threats from construction of farm roads and planned hydropower facilities. The goals of this project are to determine the conservation status and

habitat characteristics for *P. fairrieanum* in the study area and increase public awareness through community participation. The ultimate goal is to develop appropriate conservation strategies for this very rare species and the habitat where it occurs. Total amount recommended = \$3,350

*“Jewels of the Forest” An Introduction of Orchids to the Public at the Guapiaçu Ecological Reserve (REGUA).* Submitted by Nicholas Locke, Reserva Ecológica de Guapiaçu, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The general public in Brazil is well aware of orchids, but they are popularly referred to as “parasitas” or parasites by people who don’t understand how orchids grow. Brazil is home to more than 2,600 species of orchids, and the Atlantic Rainforest is now widely recognized as one of the most threatened ecosystems worldwide and one of the highest priorities for conservation. The Guapiaçu Ecological Reserve (REGUA) is located in the Serra do Mar mountain range near Rio de Janeiro, within this highly diverse region, and studies have revealed an enormous variety of orchids in the reserve. To help protect the remaining areas of the Atlantic Rainforest, it is critical to educate the public about this biome and the plants that live there. REGUA wishes to construct an orchid house measuring ~195 m<sup>2</sup> (2100 sq. ft) to support a representative collection of orchids found in this region. REGUA has an education program (established in 2003) that brings school groups to the



reserve on a regular basis, as well as a community partnership program that invites local community members to learn about the projects taking place within the reserve. The orchid house will be used as an educational tool to inform visitors about the importance of conserving orchids and the habitat in which they occur. Total amount recommended = \$5,000

*Great Plains Ladies'-tresses (Spiranthes magnicamporum): Establishment of Annual Monitoring Protocol to Determine Effectiveness of Conservation Land Management.* Submitted by Lisa Maskus, Nature Conservancy of Canada. The Nature Conservancy of Canada owns and manages a portion of the great plains ladies'-tresses habitat in southern Manitoba, near the border with Minnesota. Preserve lands are managed using several different strategies: prescribed fire, haying and grazing. Wildfires regularly occur in this habitat as well. Although a number of terrestrial orchids are native to this area, a study to evaluate the effects of various land management approaches on the orchid species has not been conducted. This project will include an experiment to examine the relationships between land management strategies and the success of great plains ladies'-tresses in southern Manitoba. The results of this study will be used to inform future management practices for this habitat. Total amount recommended = \$4,807

## World Famous San Diego Zoo

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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Renewal Rate \$104.

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Type to enter text

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Renewal rate \$86.

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~ 6 discount guest coupons good toward admission.

~ A One Year Subscription to ZOONOOZ.

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Prices & benefits subject to change.

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## Orchid Dates to Remember

October 28th-29th

### Orchids in the Park (SDCOS fall show)

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 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

November 4th

### SDCOS Species Group Meeting

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

November 7th, 6:30 PM

### SDCOS Culture Class

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 7th 7:30 PM

### SDCOS General Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

November 9th, 7:00 PM

### SDCOS Board Meeting

Normally the Thursday following the General Meeting, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

November 15th

### Cymbidium Society Meeting

Regular meeting, third Wednesday of month

Culture class at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00

Lake San Marcos Pavilion

1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078

orchldy2@mac.com or (760) 732-0055

November 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



Apologies to Ken Campbell that his beautiful Vanda is relegated to page 15... getting the spacing right is challenging! - Ed.

### From the Membership Desk

Please welcome our newest members: Karen Bassler, Elena Razumovskaya, and Richard & Rosemarie Olaes. Bob

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**San Diego County Orchid Society  
General Meeting Minutes  
October 3, 2017**

**Summary**

This meeting was the regular monthly General Meeting. During the business portion of the meeting, Kay Klausing, President, invited Jack Schaefer to approach the podium for two items pertinent to the membership.

For the first item, Jack reminded the attendees of the two planned bus excursions to "The Huntington Library, Art Collection, and Botanical Gardens" located in San Marino, California. The first excursion would take place Saturday, October 21, 2017 and reservations needed to be in by October 4<sup>th</sup>. Complete information is in the October SDCOS newsletter. Jack also stated to the audience the need of orchids to display at the Huntington Show and those were needed by Tuesday, October 17. If members needed the donated show plants to be picked up, Jack would do so if members let him know.

The second item Jack presented was related to the *2018 Spring Show*, "Orchid Mardi Gras". As required, the *2018 Spring Show* budget needed to be published twice for general membership view prior to membership approval. The budget appeared in both the September and October 2017 issues of the "San Diego County Orchid Society" newsletters. Jack referenced the details in both issues and stated the total amount to be voted upon for approval is \$31,000.00. Jack requested a proposal from the floor to approve

the thirty-one-thousand-dollar budget for the *2018 Spring Show*. David Hoffmaster made a motion, "The *2018 Spring Show* budget as previously published and stated be approved." David Eveleth seconded the motion. From the membership present, Jack called for any discussions or questions; there were none. Jack requested an auditory vote from all those **in agreement**; then he requested an auditory vote from those **not in agreement**. There were no negative votes. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the members present at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Ketelaar, Secretary

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**Culture Checklist Tips**

By Bruce Berg

This month, I tried looking at some other society websites for inspiration on checklist topics for my article. I visited the Palomar website at <http://www.palomarorchid.org/content/november-do-list.html>. I have to say they have a great site does a better job than what I can do. Kudos to Helge and the Palomar Orchid Society for the excellent job that they have done. Pay attention to the temperatures. Be prepared for rains that may start in November. They can damage Cymbidium buds.

I have been working on my greenhouse to get it ready to receive the plants that need winter protection. Here are the things that I've done and learned:

First, I can't climb ladders anymore, so I decided to replace the garden sprinkler valves that I'd installed at the top of the greenhouse with in-line valves that I could work with easier. I noticed that the PVC pipes that were initially installed in the rafters had become plugged with algae. So in my new installation, valves are at chest height. The pipes are all black drip type hose. I installed a shut-off valve below the new valves so that I can shut off the water to them in the summer when I move the plants outside and blow the water out of the pipes. I have a hose bib below the valve that I will be using during the summer to mix fertilizer.

I had help to redo shade-cloth in areas of my greenhouse that got too much light last winter. I've checked light levels and know which plants need to go in areas of higher and lower light.

I am replacing the roof vent openers that weren't working.

I took my shelves apart and sprayed the greenhouse with a Physan 20 mixture to sterilize the area. Then I put the shelves back together, spraying the shelves again when everything was reinstalled.

I have fertilized my plants with Bayer 3 in 1 to prep them before taking them back into the greenhouse. I plan to clean up the plants, check inventory tags and photograph the plants as I take them into the greenhouse.

I have an area where I am staging surplus plants to go to Conservation for the October show so that I can make more room for my other plants in the greenhouse.



From the Editor:

You may have noticed a new look to the newsletter this month. We are trying out some new formats to see if the membership likes them, and to better integrate the newsletter and the website. Please let me or any society board member know if you like (or dislike) this format.

One of the things I love about orchids is the fragrance, and fragrance is a must-have for plants in my collection. Recently, a new species of orchid, *Cynorchis christae*, with a fragrance like champagne was discovered in Madagascar!

See the quick note in Atlas Obscura

<http://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/found-orchid-madagascar-champagne-botany>

or the full article in the Kew Bulletin

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12225-017-9715-4>

May your orchids always smell great (or however you want, you *Bulbophyllum* enthusiasts)!

David

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