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San Diego County Orchid Society



February, 2018
vol 227

General Meeting
February 6th, 7:30 pm

Orchid Flower Genes

We are very pleased to have Andy Cameron, PhD, a genetics researcher from the California Institute of Technology as our speaker in February. He is going to talk to us about the genetics of flower formation in orchids. If you have ever been curious about orchid flowers and how they form such wonderful and exotic shapes and colors, this speaker will help you understand the biology behind it.

He notes that plant breeding has always been of great interest to orchid growers. Plant breeding and the way traits are passed down provided the basis for the principles of genetics worked out by Gregor Mendel back in 1865. Then beginning some 30 years ago plant scientists began to explore which genes influenced flower formation and how they did so. Groups like the laboratory of Elliot Meyerowitz at Caltech used plant breeding and molecular biology to tease out the gene functions that told undifferentiated meristem cells which flower parts to become. The story became even more interesting as the studies moved into new groups of plants such as cymbidium orchids. We will explore how a basic set of genes tells flowers their fates and produces the exotic flowers of orchids.

R. Andrew (Andy) Cameron is a semi-retired member of the research faculty at the California Institute of Technology. He studies how the genomes of marine creatures like sea urchins and sea stars dictate the form of these animals. He is past president of the San Gabriel Valley Branch of the Cymbidium Society of America and

Culture Class
February 6th, 6:30 pm

Watering Orchids

Speaker – Kay Klausing

This month culture class presenter will be Kay Klausing. He will be speaking about "Watering Orchids". When to water orchids is one of the most commonly asked question by novices. The presentation will try to answer this question in an easy way and discuss other elements of water such as water quality, quantity and adjustment for different media. It will also feature a demonstration on how to water different types of orchids.

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



continued on page 3

an Associate Judge for the CSA. He writes the Duffer's Corner column for the CSA Journal. He also tries to convince cymbidiums and other cool-growing orchids that Pasadena is a good place to live. One of his major goals is to introduce orchid hobbyists to the wonderful body of biological information that underlies their pursuits.

This talk promises to enhance your understanding and appreciation of orchid flowers and how they become the fascinating beauties we love so much. Don't miss it!

A reminder that you are welcome to join us for dinner at the Prado Restaurant. We have a 5:45 reservation, and while you will need to pay for your own dinner, the conversation is free! It's a great opportunity to meet and get to know our interesting speakers better. If you would like to join us, please drop me an email at debhallid@gmail.com so I can save you a seat.

Learn more about orchid genetics with Andy Cameron at the Palomar Orchid Society on Wednesday, Feb 07. The talk is titled "[Steamy stories: How Genes and Chromosomes Do Their Dance](#)".

President's Message

Kay Klausing, President

The "Orchids in the Park" Show and Sale is this weekend (January 27 and 28th)! We still need volunteers so please sign up for the 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 in the park.
Kay Klausing
President, SDCOS

Orchid Mardi Gras Is Only 2 Months Away!

Jack Schaefer and Debby Halliday

Here we are at the beginning of February and that means that the Spring Show for 2018, *Orchid Mardi Gras* is taking shape!

As we did last year, we are working to attract as many people from the local San Diego communities as possible. To that end we've created posters featuring text in various languages. Chinese, Tagalog, Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese and Japanese language texts have been added to our posters inviting our orchid loving neighbors to come and experience the beauty of

orchids. We hope that this outreach will bring more people to our show, and to our meetings.

Vendors are a key part of our show. The economics are very simple. More visitors means more sales means happy vendors means happy Society! Right? So we are all focused on attracting people to the show. Sell tickets. Distribute posters & postcards. Talk to neighbors and friends.

And to make this a show to remember, signup to create a Display! Pam Peters is going to be writing and talking about how to sign up for a display space. It's an easy process and we have a variety of display sizes available. They range from 2 ft. by 4 ft. table top displays to 9 ft. by 9 ft. floor displays. Pam will have more information on the display judging process but we really look forward to your entries.

Last year we created an orchid themed art display. We featured water color artworks, photographic art, quilts(Yay Carol Berg) and ceramics. We invite all of you to bring in your art in whatever form you have and we'll find a place for it!

And of course I'm going to talk about the need for volunteers. This is a big show and the committee cannot do it all. The signup sheets are now available online and will be on the entry table for the February and March meetings.

Help us make this the very best Spring Show we've ever had and an **Orchid Mardi Gras** to remember!

Buying Orchids at Andy's Open House

By Bruce Berg

This month I thought I would start a series about places where members can find quality orchids locally in addition to those at our shows.

Go visit Andy's Orchid Nursery Next Open House! We are lucky to have one of the best orchid nurseries in the country located in our back yard. In addition to supporting our society by selling orchids at our shows, and providing plants for several opportunity tables each year, Andy Phillips opens up his nursery periodically with open house events! If you have been impressed by the variety and diversity of plants that he brings to our events, "You ain't seen nuttin yet" until you've been to his nursery during one of his open houses! The expression "It's a jungle in there" pretty well just begins to describes what you'll see in the nine greenhouses that he uses to house 700,000 plants representing 7,000 species plants that he keeps there for sale. The greenhouses are climate and temperature controlled to provide environments for plants from around the world to match your every orchid growing condition.

His specialty is orchids mounted on sticks. This means that you should be prepared to water his plants more often than potted orchids. Andy's orchids do best watered daily with rainwater, DI, or

RO water, or following the instructions on the tags he provides, or advice you can get from him or his staff while visiting the nursery. His plants are all reasonably priced, but it's hard to not select many of his plants whenever you go there, so be prepared!

If you see or hear about a plant at one of our meetings that you really want to find, go to his website and you will likely find it. If you order it around one of our show dates, it can be delivered to you there, or you can go to an open house to pick it up there. He is also open by appointment.

On his website, you will also learn about other specials that he offers, sometimes 30% off or more! At his open house, he has additional tables with specially priced plants to tempt visitors even more than the regularly priced plants. He also has food at the open house so you can make an outing of your trip.

His schedule for 2018 is: April 13th, 14th, and

15th: June 22nd, 23rd, and 24th: and October 5th, 6th, and 7th.



Member Displays at Spring Show

Pam Peters

SDCOS members may enter displays at the Spring Show in either the Open (Commercial) or Amateur category. The Classes are

- Displays larger than 20 square feet
- Orchid plants arranged for effect on a 4'x2' table top
- Orchid plants arranged for effect on a 4'x2' floor display
- Orchid plants arranged for effect on a 4'x4' table top
- Orchid plants arranged for effect on a 4'x4' floor display
- Orchid plants arranged for effect on a 2'x2' table top
- Orchid plants displayed in a basket or small container
- Orchid plants displayed in a terrarium
- Orchid cut flower arrangements
- Educational Display – with or without live plants

To reserve a space for a display at the show, please fill out the Member Display Form at <http://sdorchids.com/SDCOS Member Display Sign-up 2018.pdf> or contact Jack Schaefer or Debby Halliday, Show Co-Chairs.

January Show in the Park

Dave Hoffmaster

We would like to remind everyone that the next show in the park in January 27 & 28. Mark the date on your calendar and start grooming your plants to show them off. The last two shows have been a success and we look forward to another great show. Please also consider volunteering your time as we cannot put on a show like this without your help. There are a number of positions you can help with from set up on Friday to take down on Sunday afternoon. In between we need help with things like security, plant hotel, host and cashier. We cannot put on a show without your help so please consider signing up. You can go on line to the society web site and click on the volunteer tab to select a position.

Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park), December, 2017.

Text and photos by Arthur Pinkers

There were five orchids presented for judging. One was awarded:

Zygo. Firewater 'Friskey' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Casa de las Orquideas
Awarded AM/AOS of 80 points



Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park),
January, 2018.

Text and photos by Arthur Pinkers

There were 8 orchids presented for
judging. Six were awarded:

Paphiopedilum Chiu Hua Dancer
'Sunset Valley Orchids I' HCC/
AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded HCC/AOS 78points



Paphiopedilum Chiu Hua Dancer
'Sunset Valley Orchids II' HCC/
AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded HCC/AOS 78points



SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY

SECOND ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION



Friday, April 20, 2018

Preview 6:30PM

Auction starts at 7:00PM

South Coast Botanic Garden

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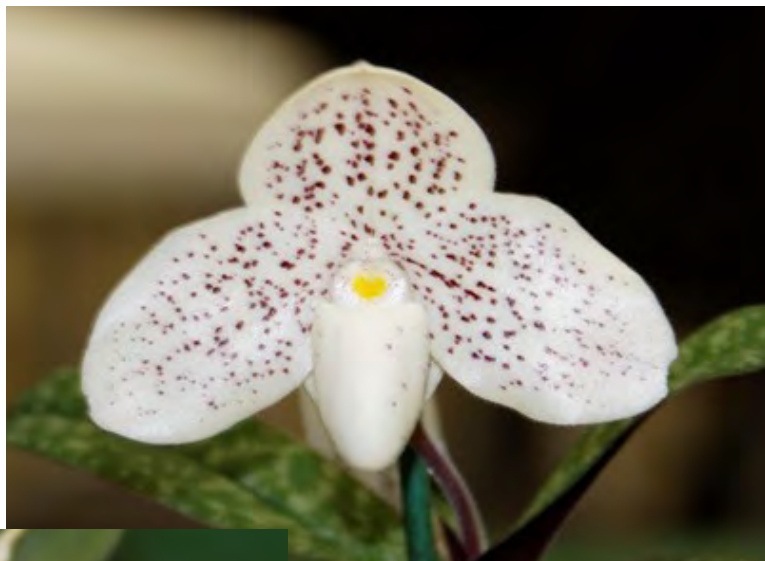
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Paphiopedilum N.R. 'Sunset Valley Orchids' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 81points



Cattleya wittigiana 'Windflower' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz
Awarded AM 84 points

Cycnoches warscewiczii 'SVO Green Goddess' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM 81 points

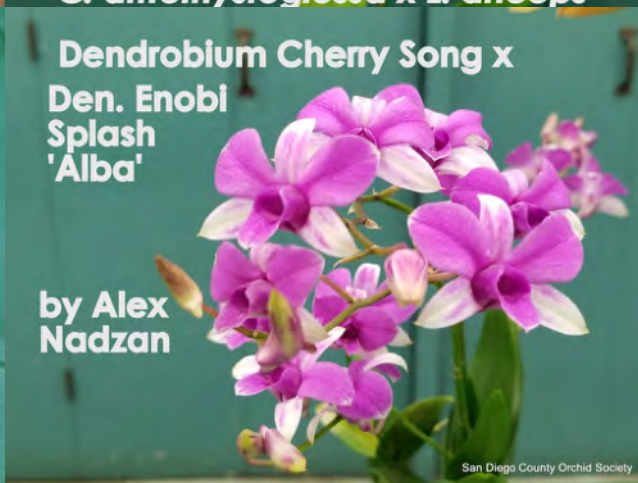
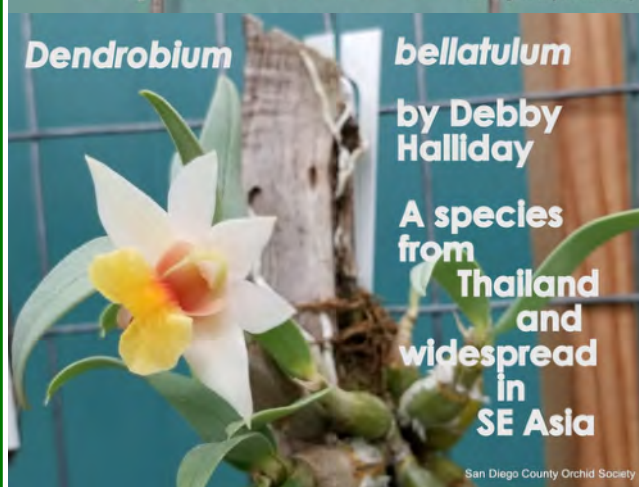


Cattlianthe Kool Treat 'Sunset Valley Orchids' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 81 points



January plant forum photos
Photos by Scott LaBouff





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LBAOS ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION
MONDAY MARCH 12, 2018

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall
6201 E. Willow, Long Beach, CA
(Between Palo Verde & Woodruff)

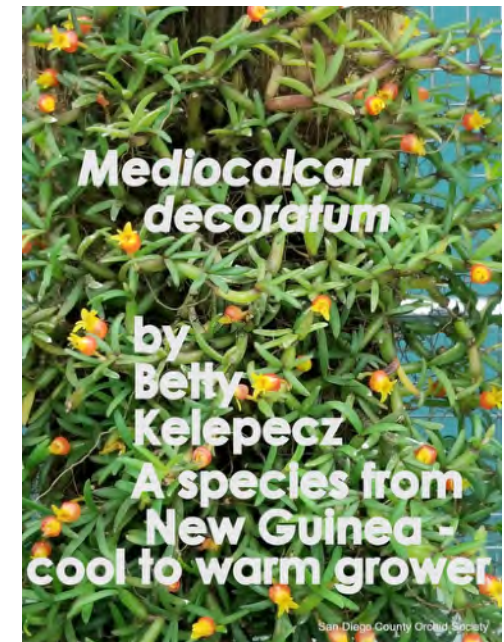
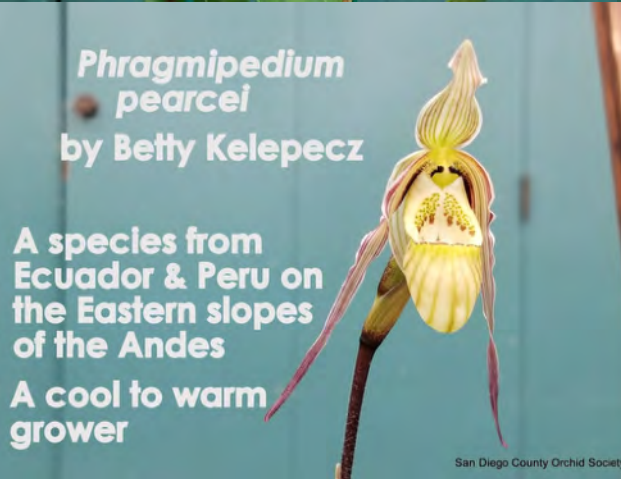
6:00 PM- Doors open for Auction Preview & Registration (Get your paddles!)

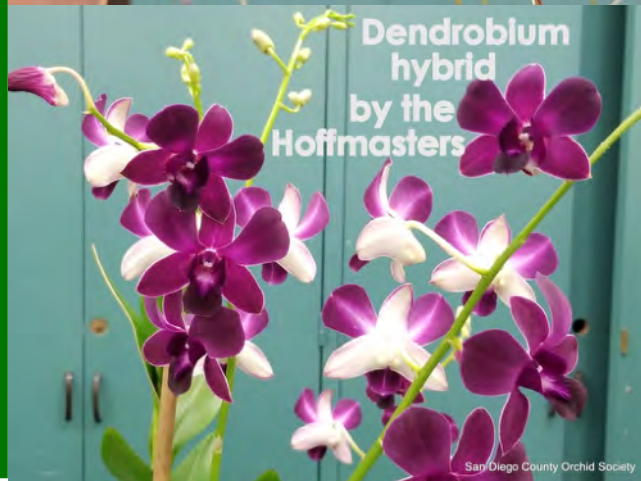
6:30 PM- Auction starts Promptly- Visitors & Guests Welcome
*Cash or Check only accepted, Free Parking

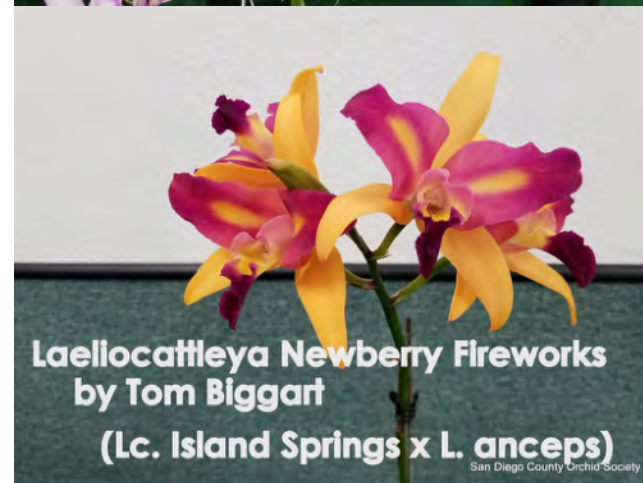
Join us for a fun evening with quality orchids from commercial growers and society members!

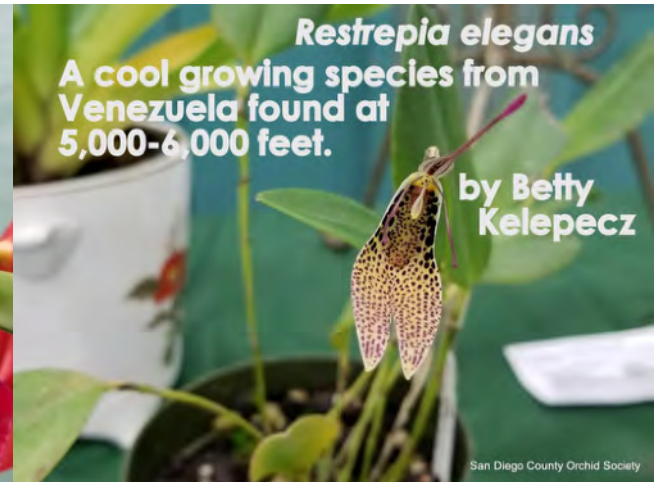
Come join us at our regular meetings the 2nd Monday of each month at St. Gregory's Church Hall at 7PM. Meet dedicated hybridizers, growers, amateurs, and beginners.

Info: www.lbaos.com, info@lbaos.com









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Orchid Dates to Remember

January 27th-28th

Orchids in the Park (SDCOS fall show)

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

February 1st, 7:00 PM

SDCOS Board Meeting

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

February 3rd

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

February 6th, 6:30 PM

SDCOS Culture Class

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

February 6th 7:30 PM

SDCOS General Meeting

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

February 7th

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

February 16th

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

February 21st

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

Minutes of the last meeting/ board meeting can be found at

sdorchids.com/minutes/2018_01.pdf?page=1#view=FitB

From the Membership Desk

Please welcome our newest members: David & Lorena Winter, Teresa Bartlett, Tanya Lam, and Bridgette Cerles.

Bob

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From the Editor:

Winter is about ready to give way to spring ... at least here in San Diego. Other parts of the country may not be so fortunate, but hey, that's why we live here, right? The days are starting to get longer and it will get warmer. Time to take stock of your plants, make sure they are cosy and not too wet (not hard this winter!) and plan for the show season. The society's winter show is this weekend and the big shows - Santa Barbara and our own Orchid Mardi Gras - are coming up quickly.

For those that love miniatures and obscure plants, an orchid that never blooms has been discovered - and it basically has no leaves either! The flower remains closed and it self - pollinates. It's a little bigger than the "Gnat's Ass" flowers that Fred Clarke likes to make fun of but not much. See

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-orchid-blooms.html>

My winter bloomers are in full swing, I hope yours are too!

May your plants always grow and bloom!

David



San Diego County Orchid Society

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1st Class

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