



**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 238:
January 2019**

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Bruce Berg receiving Orchid Digest Diamond
Award

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Orchid Digest Diamond Award Winner: Bruce Berg

Text by Debby Halliday, First VP

The San Diego County Orchid Society honored Bruce Berg with the Orchid Digest Diamond Award at our holiday party on December 4th. The Diamond Award is given in recognition of outstanding service by a member to their society.

Since joining the SDCOS in 2007, he has been a real pillar of our society. He has been much more than an active member, serving as an officer and on numerous committees and workshops.

Bruce served as President from 2011 – 2014 followed by three years as Past President. He was co-chair of the annual Spring Show for 6 years from 2010 - 2015. He was chair of the three outreach shows in Balboa Park from 2015 through early 2017. He has been a regular exhibitor and judge at most of our four shows a year. He helped mount our exhibit at the Newport Harbor show for many years. He was a founder of our New Member Potting Workshops and hosted them many times at his home. He has been the SDCOS representative on the board of the Del Mar Fair, and was very involved in our exhibits there for three years. He also helped rewrite the rules and criteria for the Del Mar Fair orchid shows making them work much better for exhibitors.

Bruce has written many excellent cultural articles for our newsletter and was the “Now’s the Time” author for orchids in the San Diego Garden Magazine. He is an accomplished grower who wins ribbons and

always shares his plant divisions with new members.

In short, Bruce is a dedicated member who has made a real difference to our society. As President, he would remind us, “If you see a new face, go over and greet them. Make people feel welcome.” That is what Bruce is all about. We are very pleased to honor him with this Diamond Award. We can’t imagine a more worthy recipient.

Culture Class, January 3rd, 6:30 pm David Brown: All about Pots and Potting Media

Text by John Oswalt

You have heard it said that the best way to care for your orchids is to duplicate their natural culture. But how do you do this when you plant your orchid in a pot?

Healthy roots are absolutely essential to orchids. Without a substrate conducive to root establishment, growth and function, an orchid cannot absorb the nutrients and water it requires. But not all orchids want the same culture. Some want plenty of drainage, air circulation, or moisture and others want a damper environment. Orchid mixes consist of a variety of potting materials, each of which has its pros and cons and provides a different environment for your plant.

Our own David Brown will share his insight to this potting challenge. He will help us understand the benefits of different types of pots and potting media. No single potting material works best for every orchid or orchid grower. David will give you some ideas to

choose from to help you address the needs of your orchids in your growing conditions. We hope that you will join us for this enlightening discussion which starts at 6:30 pm... We will start promptly on time. Hope to see you there!

From the Membership Desk

Text by Bob Clark, Membership Chair

Membership has no new members for December. I want to wish all a Happy New Year. Those few that ordered a Roster can pick it up at a meeting or the January Park Orchid show. Cost is \$3, to have it mailed is \$4.00, paid in advance.



Encyclia profusa

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General Meeting, January 3rd, 6:00 pm
Tim Culbertson: *Encyclias of Mexico and Beyond*

Text by Debby Halliday, First VP

A quick reminder that our January meeting will be on **Thursday, Jan 3rd** instead of Tuesday which is, of course, New Year's Day.

We will be welcoming Tim Culbertson, one of our favorite speakers, to talk about Encyclias. Here is an introduction in his own words.



Euchile mariae

"Although I teach middle school kids for a living, one of my passions has always been plants. I began growing orchids as an offshoot from working at Longwood Gardens in Philadelphia just after college. From the beginning, it was all about Paphs, particularly awarded and select clones of historic importance, of which my collection numbers nearly 3000. While I love finding old, rare stepping stones in Paph breeding, I also do a little hybridizing of my own, and growing up my own babies is a blast.

I am an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and have served in various capacities with various orchid societies in California and on the East Coast. I love meeting other people who like orchids too, and doing so often finds me traveling to shows, vendors, and peoples' greenhouses to see the latest and greatest in new hybrids and to get the best orchid gossip. I like to be involved in plants as much as possible: in addition to Longwood, I've worked at the Smithsonian Institution tending to their orchids, and for years for the United States National Arboretum, collecting rare plants and documenting cultivated species and hybrids for their herbarium. In short, I really like plants.

For your meeting, I'll be sharing a presentation on Encyclias of Mexico and Beyond. These spectacular cattleya relatives grow well outside in Southern California, and with their compact habit, great fragrance, and ease of growth, these are delightful plants for every collection. By extending the traditional definition of encyclias to include recently separated groups like Anacheilum, Panarica, Prosthechea, Euchile, and others



Tim Culbertson

that I and many of you grew up calling Encyclia, we end up with a diverse, beautiful, fragrant, exciting group of plants and flowers; if we add those to the wonderful flora of Mexico and Central America, we have a group that every collector should grow.

By the end of this presentation, you will have a new appreciation of the range of plant habits, floral forms, and fragrances of Encyclia broadly, as well as an appreciation of their lovely flowers and ease-of-growth. I will be providing a plant table of seedling Encyclia species from Central and South America, suitable for culture outdoors in Southern California."

Encyclias should be in everyone's collection, so you don't want to miss this talk.

See you at the meeting!

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SPRING SHOW BUDGET FOR APPROVAL

Text by Debby Halliday, First VP, Show Chair

The 2019 Spring Show committee is presenting its 2019 budget for the approval of the membership. A vote on the budget will be taken at the regular meeting on January 3rd.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the show, it is different from Park Shows in that we rent a large event space and charge admission to the public. This is a wonderful, high profile show which we have been staging for over 70 years. We now need to be authorized to spend the money it takes to put it on.

This budget is closely based on our actual expenses and revenues from recent years. We expect to make a profit on the show and will do our utmost to exceed the revenue projections contained in this budget. We will also save money wherever we can as we recognize that every dollar saved goes directly to profits.

We will be happy to answer any questions. We are fortunate this year in having the AOS annual meeting in conjunction with our show. Our hope is that this will translate into higher revenue figures than we have projected.

Debby Halliday
Show Chair



Encyclia Cynthia x E. Ginger Snap

SDCOS Spring Show Budget Estimates

Revenue from Ticket sales, Program Advertising, and Supplies sales:	\$34750
Expenses:	
Advertising, Marketing, and Printing	\$ 4000
Awards & Judging	\$ 3000
Facility and insurance	\$18100
Food for Volunteers & Vendors	\$ 4000
Program Printing	\$ 600
Set-Up Costs – Truck Rental, Bark, Lath, etc.	\$ 1300
Other – Supplies for sale, Copies, Materials, etc.	\$ 1100
Total Expenses:	\$32100
Net Gain:	\$ 2650

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SDCOS Conservation Grant Awardees 2018

Text by Ron Kaufmann

The SDCOS Conservation Committee met on December 2nd to evaluate applications from a number of people and organizations. After careful consideration, the Committee recommended the following three grants for funding. All three of these recommendations were submitted to the SDCOS board for approval as well.

A vote of the membership is required for all society expenditures in excess of \$750, and a motion to approve these three awards will be made at the monthly General Meeting on Thursday, January 3. If you have any questions about these applications or the review or approval process, please contact Ron Kaufmann (rkaufmann@gmail.com) by **Wednesday, January 2.**

1. *Diversity and Distribution of Orchids in Syangja District of Western Nepal.* Submitted by Ajay Karki, Kathmandu Forestry College, Kathmandu, Nepal. Nepal is home to hundreds of orchid species, most of which are poorly known. A number of these species are thought to have medicinal properties, and Nepalese villagers often harvest native orchids for this purpose. Orchids are not well known and thus not protected by government forest management plans, which regulate the harvest of trees and other valuable resources. This project will include orchid surveys to provide baseline orchid diversity and distribution information, as well as data about associations between orchid species and

forest types. This information will be incorporated into a forest management plan for this district. Total amount recommended = \$3,350

2. *The Orchids of Cerro Brujo, Chiapas, Mexico.* Submitted by Eduardo Martinez Ovando, Universidad de Ciencias y Artes del Estado de Chiapas, Chiapas, Mexico. Cerro Brujo (Wizard's Peak) is a mountain ridge in Mexico, a short distance from the capital of Chiapas. This ridge is home to spectacular orchid diversity, arising from its location in a natural biological corridor that connects biodiverse regions within Mexico. This region's importance as a reservoir of biodiversity has been underestimated, and pressures from human activities represent a threat to this remarkable ecosystem. To date, Cerro Brujo has not been prioritized for conservation due to a lack of information about the flora and fauna that inhabit this area. This project includes a detailed survey of the orchids and habitat types on Cerro Brujo, and the resulting information will be used to advocate for elevated conservation status on the part of the government and to generate greater awareness among local villagers of the importance of conserving the orchids and the habitats in which they live. Total amount recommended = \$6,800

3. *Utilizing Citizen Science to Restore Orchid Biodiversity at The Ridges Sanctuary in Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin.* Submitted by Matt Peter, The Ridges Sanctuary, Wisconsin. The Ridges Sanctuary, Inc. is the oldest private land trust in the state of Wisconsin and has been involved with orchid conservation since its beginnings in 1937. In collaboration with other organizations and individuals, the sanctuary is working to establish protocols for the conservation and restoration of, initially, five target species of orchids and, ultimately, the orchids of Door County and the Lake Michigan shoreline. The purpose of the orchid restoration project is to further the scientific understanding of native terrestrial orchids by promoting interest in orchids and their cultivation, educating through the exchange of information and experiences related to orchid culture, and supporting the conservation of orchids in the wild. This project will involve volunteers as well as partnerships with local school districts to collect biotic and abiotic data in the field through population surveys and plot monitoring and to carry out asymbiotic germination of orchids using techniques developed in-house. This study will engage local communities, and the results will be used to inform future practices for restoration and conservation of orchids in this habitat. Total amount recommended = \$3,220

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President's Message

Text by Kay Klausing, President, SDCOS

Happy New Year!

I hope all our members had a peaceful and relaxing holiday season.

Another "Orchids in the Park" Show and Sale is coming up (January 26 and 27th)! Let's try to make it as much of a success as the previous shows. As usual, we still need volunteers so please sign up for the open positions at the January General Meeting or on our website at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/HHKET> – 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 General Meeting, which will be on a different day than normal: Thursday, January 3rd!

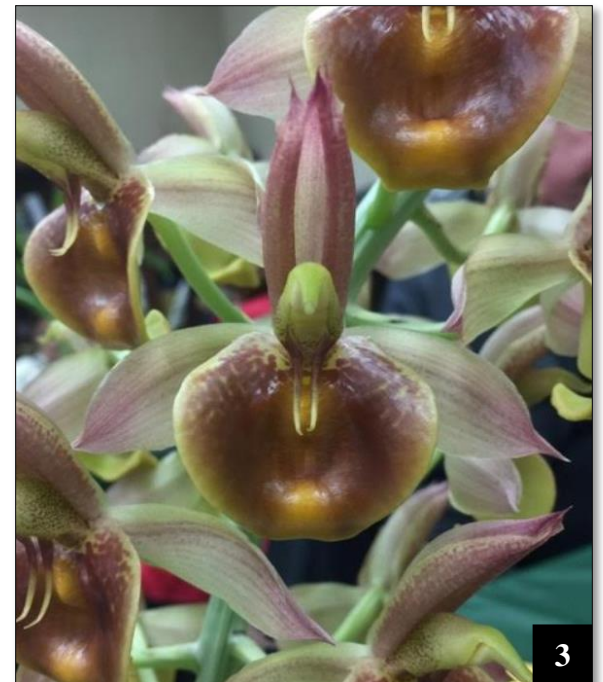
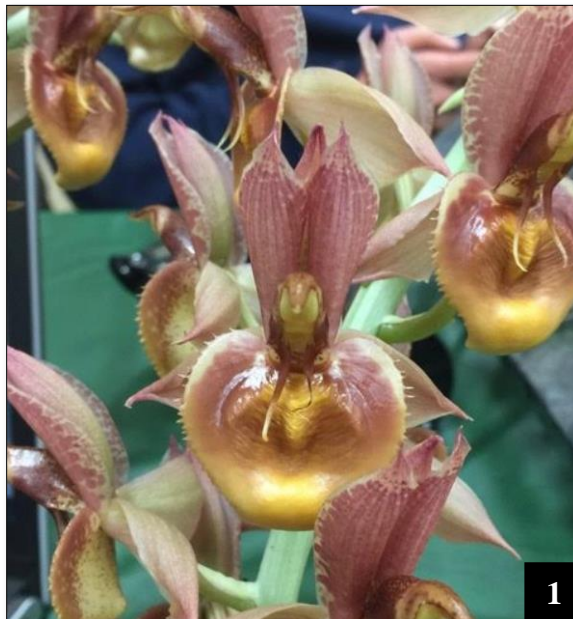
Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa del Prado, Balboa Park), December 2018 (cont. on next page). Text and photos by Phyllis Prestia.

Nine orchids were exhibited. Five orchids were awarded:

[1] *Ctsm. spitzii* 'Apricot' CHM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 82 points

[2] *Ctsm. Lata Laxman* 'Sophia' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Charlie Fouquette
Awarded AM/AOS 81 points

[3] *Ctsm. spitzii* 'Burnished Gold' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 83 points



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Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Cont.)

[1] *Cyc. warscewiczii* 'SVO Jumbo' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 84 points

[2] *Fkd. Dark Matter* 'SVO' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 82 points



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Board and General Meeting Minutes

The SDCOS Board meeting minutes for December can be found on our website at: http://sdorchids.com/minutes/2018_12.pdf?page=1#view=FitB

Additionally, this month's General Meeting minutes can be found on our website at: <http://sdorchids.com/Minutes.html>

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Dendrobium Enobi "Purple Splash"



Wilsonara ENA "ENA Sib"

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Orchid Dates to Remember:

January 2nd

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

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

January 3rd, THURSDAY

SDCOS January Meeting

Culture class at 6:30; program at 7:30
Normally the first Tuesday of the month
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

January 7th

SDCOS Board Meeting

Normally the first Thursday of the month
*Different day because of the holiday
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

January 5th

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

Breakfast 8:30 am, meeting 9:00 am
First Saturday of the month
Paul or Ann Tuskes, (858) 274-5829

January 16th

Cymbidium Society Meeting

Meeting at 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Third Wednesday of month
111 Richmar Avenue San Marcos, 92069
aaallen@cox.net or (760) 533-4975

January 18th

San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey

10:00 am – 2:00 pm (orchid space is open)
Third Friday of the month
Janette Gerrity (619) 231-1515 ext. 4306



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San Diego County Orchid Society
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From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday season.

I just want to remind everyone that our general meeting will be on THURSDAY this month, January 3rd, not the 1st Tuesday, because of the holiday.

As always, if you have anything you would like to have considered for the next edition of the newsletter, please shoot me an email at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com by the 15th of the month. I'm going to be traveling a lot over the next couple months, so I'm going to have to stick pretty hard to the 15th deadline through February.

Best of luck growing!

David Vandenbroek