President: Russ Nichols
1st Vice President: John Reyes
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Membership: Mary Bell
Treasurer: Michelle Dobard
AOS Rep: Janell Schuck
Ribbon Judging: Barbara Roth
Hospitality: Marylyn Paulson

Auction: Andy Tao
Website: Roberta Fox
Library: Dennis Mackewicz



Meeting Schedule

Doors open at 6:30 pm
Table/chair setup, plants in place
Ribbon judging starts 7:00 pm
Culture session
Speaker starts 7:30 pm
Opportunity drawing
Table/chair teardown
Doors close at 9:30 pm

South Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter Founded in 1950 August 2010

Spectacular Orchids from Around the World

By Peter T. Lin

7:30 p.m.

Peter's talk presents a portrait of beautiful orchids from around the world. His Power Point slides will take you on a journey of some of world's most exciting orchid species and hybrids. This will be an entertaining yet educational review of the diversity of plants and flowers in the orchid family.

Peter started growing orchids over 25 years ago. He is currently an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and a hybridizer of mini-catts. He has received numerous AOS awards for his orchids. Peter will be providing the plants for this month's plant opportunity table. There will be a nice selection of orchids, so be sure to come and get your tickets!

Peter also has hundreds of photos of his orchids that he maintains on Flickr. You can view them by typing the following address into your internet browser: http://www.flickr.com/photos/minicatt/collections/

John Reyes First Vice President

Refreshments

Last names starting with I to P please bring refreshments.

President's Message

Last month's meeting was highlighted by an energetic discussion of orchid care in our climate. All the panelists freely provided their best tips on culture and care of orchids. Differences, as expected, arose from the varying growing environments each face.. I was particularly interested in the different watering schedules, and have summarized my understanding below.

Looking forward, there are many shows and sales coming up, and I summarized these events below. Of course, our own auction is scheduled for the fourth Monday of October, so mark your calendars. Also, it will be helpful if SCOS members bring a few small boxes to the auction that we can use to send orchids home with our successful bidders.

We are still in need of a full time newsletter editor. Also, anyone with a desire to participate more in the administration of our society is welcome to join the slate of candidates for our 2011 Officers and Board Members. See me or Janell Schuck.

Russ Nichols President

Culture: Water and Watering

Our panel members last month discussed the type of water and watering schedules they follow. Here is a summary of their words of wisdom.

Most of our experienced growers were satisfied to use tap water. Here in Long Beach and surrounding areas, the tap water is on the hard side, but not so much that it cannot be used to water the heartier orchids. I use it most of the time to water all my orchids, including: cattleyas, laelias, cymbidiums, encyclias, phalaenopsis, pleurothallis, and masdevallia. However, most panelists agreed that distilled water or water filtered by reverse osmosis (RO) benefits some plants. Don Goss purchases purified water for his collection. I have discovered that a daily light spray of distilled water, supplanting watering with tap water, benefits phalaenopsis, pleurothallis, and masdevallia. Also, our June guest speaker, Tony Valardi, opined that blackened leaf tips in cymbidiums may be due to hard water. In general, it seems prudent to occasionally flush plants that are regularly watered with tap water.

Watering schedules were geared to the type of plant and its local environment. Some plants have large pseudobulbs that hold water in reserve (e.g., cattleyas and cymbidiums), while others have little or no reserves (e.g., masdevallias). Generally, smaller plants with less reserve capacity need more frequent watering. (However, the potting media also affects the amount of water available to the plant, and should be taken into account when deciding how frequently to water.) Mounted plants may need water every other day, or more often if it is hot, dry, and windy (as it is when we get Santa Ana winds). Mounting exposes root systems to the air, so mounted plants dry more quickly. Ed Dickerson, who owned Orchids Plus in Bellflower, once said he could water the orchids mounted on the tree in front of his house four times a day. Our panelist Jim Hoyle waters his mounted plants about once every two days. Espie Quinn waters less frequently, perhaps twice a week, befitting growing plants under shadecloth outdoors. Ruben Colmenares waters about twice a week, but also attempts to raise the humidity by watering under his orchid benches. In the greenhouse, however, less frequent watering is necessary, because the greenhouse retains a higher humidity, and in higher humidity, orchids need less frequent watering (more water is retained in the immediate environment of the orchid, and more is retained in the pot or on the mount.)

South Coast Orchid Society Ribbon Judging Results

July 26, 2010

Cattleya (Laeliinae Subtribe)

First Blc. Crowfield "Mendenhall" Don Goss

First Schomburgkia leonis Ruben Colmenares Second Brassavola nodosa Ruben Colmenares

Second Blc. Williette Wong "the Best" Don Goss

Third Encyclia cochleata Dennis Mackewicz

Third Encyclia alata Espie Quinn

Cultural Slc. Golden Treat x Slc. Cherry Country Ruben Colmenares
Cultural Lc. Loon Toon "Aftican Beauty" Ruben Colmenares

Dendrobium (Dendrobiinae Subtribe)

First Dendrobrium (bracteosum x laevifolium) Ruben Colmenares

Second Dendrobrium Cchrysotoxum Espie Quinn

Dendrobrium Gillieston Jazz "Purple Flecks" x

Third Den (Aussie Charm x Aip) Ruben Colmenares

Phalaenopsis (Sarcanthinae Subtribe)

First Neofinetia falcata "Shoutennou" Ruben Colmenares
Second Phal Brother Girl B Barbara Roth

Third Phal cornu-cervi var alba "Fangtastic" Roberta Fox

Pleurothallid (Pleurothallidinae Subtribe)

First Masdevallia Imposter Russ and Susan Nichols

Second Masdevallia Prince Charming "Highland" Jim Hoyle Third Masdevallia calura Jim Hoyle

Oncidium (Oncidiinae Subtribe)

First Wils Franz Wichmann Don Goss Second Bllra Purple Haze "Jimi Hendrix" Don Goss

Paph & Phrag (Cyprpedioideae Subfamily)

First Cypripedium Clair de Lune "Edgar Van Belle" Don Goss

Other Genera

First Dendrochilum unknown Dennis Mackewicz

Upcoming Events

Coastal Valley OS of Lompoc Annual Plant Sale, Lompoc Public Library, Tues <u>Aug 24</u>, 7pm South Bay OS Show and Sale, South Coast Botanic Garden, Sept. 18 & 19 Coastal Valley OS of Lompoc Orchid Expo and Sale, Lompoc Public Library, Sept. 25 (10am to 4pm)

Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale, South Coast Plaza Village, Sept. 25 & 26 San Diego Orchid Fair, San Diego Botanic Garden, Oct. 1-3

Southland Orchid Show, Huntington Library, October 15-17

South Coast Orchid Society Auction, Whaley Park in Long Beach, October 25

South Coast Orchid Society 5728 Madrid Lane Long Beach, California 90814

Monday, August 23, 2010 Meeting at Whaley Park Clubhouse Meeting Starts at 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

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July 2010 SCOS Ribbon Judging



