President John Reyes
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Secretary Open
Membership Open
Treasurer Michelle Dobard
AOS Rep Janell Schuck
Ribbon Judging Barbara Roth
Hospitality Maria Van Kooy
Newsletter Russ Nichols
Website Roberta Fox
Library Dennis Mackewicz



Regular Meeting Schedule

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

South Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter Founded in 1950 August 2012

Guest Speaker: Arnold Gum

Subject: Multi-floral Paphiopedilum Hybrids

Monday, August 27, 2012

Arnold is a patent attorney by day; orchid connoisseur and AOS Judge by night/weekend. He started growing orchids as a young child. However, as opposed to most orchid growers who started with a potted orchid, Arnold's first orchid experience was in a flask. It all started with a shriveled Dendrobium seed pod off of one of his Dad's plants. Having seen his parents plant seeds in the ground before, the logical assumption was that orchid seeds would grow in the rich Hawaiian soil, just like all of the other lush green plants growing in the back yard. It was, after all, Hawaii! Luckily, Arnold's Dad intervened, finding Arnold with hoe in one hand and orchid pod in the other. He explained that orchids were germinated on sterile agar medium. Arnold's first of many questions was, "what's Agar???" One thing led to another and after many questions and much patient explanation by Arnold's Dad, Arnold and his Dad ended up at the Stanley Taba Orchid Nursery. Stanley generously gave Arnold two sterile flasks with orchid medium, probably guessing that an elementary school kid would have fun with the flasks but probably not guessing two little flasks would lead to a house full of orchid flasks! [Holy Mitosis Batman!] One thing led to another and before you could say humu humu nuku nuku apua'a, the back yard was filled with over three thousand orchids, the house had flasks lining every window, and weekends were being spent with island orchid growers, learning, observing, and collecting more plants. Orchids turned into a life long hobby, surviving four college degrees and moves from Hawaii to California to Colorado and back to California. Wherever he went, the orchids followed.

This month's presentations is on Paphiopedilum breeding. Arnold focuses on the amazing variety of Paph sections, the surprising differences between each section (not all Paphs are born equal!), and the results to expect when you cross between species from different sections. Each section is highlighted by its key traits such as multiple flowers, long petals, and/or bright colors. Hybrids both within section and across different sections are explored, with a eye for creating colorful, multi-floral Paphiopedilums. The talk will be peppered with periodic questions with prizes for the right answer so pay attention and, if you're really eager, study your orchid trivia before you arrive.

Refreshments

Last names starting with **Q** through **Z** please bring refreshments.

President's Message

Summer is always a tough time to commit to attend meetings so it was nice to see the turnout we had to hear Dr. Norito Hasegawa talk on AOS judging. As usual Norito gave an outstanding talk explaining some of the nuances in AOS judging to give us a better understanding of what to look for when we evaluate other orchids as well as those in our own collections. Thanks to all our members and guests that came out for Norito's presentation and supported the plant opportunity drawing. And a large thank you to all our members who brought their blooming plants in for plant judging; it not only brightens the room but helps encourage all our new members to see what they can do as orchid growers.

As the end of summer approaches we are nearing the event that helps bring all these great speakers for you to enjoy and learn from, the annual SCOS Orchid Auction. Our auction will be held on October 22, 2012; it is our primary fund raiser and helps fund our speaker program, plant tables, and facility rental. I look forward to working with all our members to make this year's auction as successful as it has been in the past. I will be discussing at our meeting on Aug 27th the various support we will need as the auction approaches. See you all at the meeting.

John Reyes

South Coast Orchid Society Ribbon Judging Results

July 23, 2012

Cattleya (Laeliinae Subtribe)

First I lenebrosa Espie Quinn
Second Enc Alata Agnes Nguyen
Third Enc belizense "Huntington Beach" Espie Quinn
Culture Epi veroscriptum Roberta Fox

Dendrobium (Dendrobiinae Subtribe)

First Den alexanderae x atroviolaceum Espie Quinn
Second Den Phlox Tony Glinskas
Third Den Lanyaiae Jim Hoyle

Culture

Phalaenopsis (Sarcanthinae Subtribe)

First DTPS Fuller Sunset JB 2035 Don Goss
First Remanthera Imshootiana Agnes Nguyen
Second DTPS Gu Keng Beauty JB 2094 Don Goss

Third Doritis Champorensis Doris and Larry Arakakis

Culture DTPS Youngnome "Little Snow" Wilma Tawagon

Pleurothallid (Pleurothallidinae Subtribe)

First Masd Tovarensis Don Goss

Second Restrepia trichoglossa Doris and Larry Arakakis

Paph & Phrag (Cyprpedioideae Subfamily)

First paph delenatil Hsin ming bellatulum Doris and Larry Arakakis

Other Genera

First Eulophia Petersii Agnes Nguyen First Isochilus Aurantiacus Jim Hoyle

Ribbon Judging and results tabulation by Barbara Roth. Thank you Barbara!

July Meeting Ribbon Judging Photos

(More photos below)

Another gathering of fabulous blooming orchids dazzled the eye at our July meeting. Species and hybrids brightened the room. Special thanks to those sharing their plants and flowers with us.



Paphiopedalum delinatii Hsin-Ming x bellatulum



Maxillaria tenuifolia



Prosthecia mariae



Slc Tutankamen 'Pop'

Upcoming Events

See our website for flyers: www.southcoastorchidsociety.com.

South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale, So Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes September 22-23 Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale, So Coast Plaza, Santa Ana, September 29 and 30, 10 am to 5 pm San Diego International Orchid Fair, San Diego Botanic Garden, Encinitas, October 6-7 So Cal Orchid Species Society Annual Auction, Placentia Library, October 14, starts 1 pm Southland Orchid Show, Huntington Library, San Marino, October 19-21

South Coast Orchid Society Annual Auction, Whaley Park, Long Beach, October 22, starts 6:30 p.m. Santa Barbara Orchid Society Show and Sale, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, November 17-18

We wish to thank these commercial vendors for their generosity and support of our 2011 Annual Auction and other events. Their donations to the South Coast Orchid Society will help carry us through another successful year.

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More Photos from Our July Meeting

Stenoglottis woodii



Lycaste skinneri - ssp ipala (I), var rubra (r)



Epidendrum veroscriptum



Schomburgkia sawyeri



Lycaste deppei



Laelia tenebrosa



Doritaenopsis (Dtps) Gu Keng Beauty



Dendrobium alexanderae x atroviolaceum



What Really Happens at an SCOS Board Meeting? by Russ Nichols

Our board met again on Thursday, August 16, at the home of our President, John Reyes, and Pat Reyes, who is acting as our Membership Secretary. These meetings take place about every six weeks to discuss speaker selection, budget, upcoming events, and, of course, orchids. The orchid discussions always prove fruitful.

At this particular meeting, I mentioned problems with what I thought were thrips. These tiny, fast moving black insects destroy flowers, quickly sucking the substance out of them and leaving them thin and weak, with a tendency to wilt far earlier than they would otherwise. Thrips also will rasp and suck the juices from ochid buds, sometimes working their way inside between the closed sepals and destroying the bud before it can open. It turned out at least one other board member was also experiencing thrips, perhaps a phenomenon of the extra warm weather. Thrips can be controlled with a pyrithrin spray, but they are very hard to detect (because they are so tiny) before they damage buds and flowers.

I also mentioned some of the new growths on my plants was being chewed off; sure enough, the most likely suspects are rodents. Rodents, particularly rats, will look at new growth the way rabbits look at carrots. I was especially frustrated to find a prized Cattley forbesii had first had it's flower buds destroyed by thrips, and later had it's new growth chewed off by rats. Until this year, I had experienced neither pest. Needless to say, I am searching for the proper weapons with which to fight back.

Another topic that came up was the orchid culture advice one finds in books, magazine articles, and on the web. Some of this advice is written with the best of intentions by growers in unique situations, and so it reflects their growing environment. When I first started growing orchids over 20 years ago, I turned to the literature to determine my growing regimen. Repeatedly, new growers were cautioned about overwatering. However, these cautions came from growers with greenhouses, which exist in part to keep humidity high. Growing outdoors, as I do, there were many plants that perished from, I believe, lack of sufficient water. It was a long time before I began to filter advice in order to determine what pertained to my growing situation, and what was written for an altogether different environment. Controlled interior greenhouses, Florida heat and humidity, and coastal Southern California weather all provide different environments for growing orchids. Thus, among the best advice one can get is to listen to lectures by local growers, and to ask about their growing conditions. Then develop your own culture to fit your environment and habits.