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Ruben Colmenares
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Margaret Nerio
Helen Powell
Dr. Jim Miller



The South Coast Orchid Society meets on the fourth Monday of each month except holidays at the Whaley Park Clubhouse, 5620 East Atherton Street, Long Beach, California at 8:00.

http://www.southcoastorchidsociety.com

# South Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter Founded in 1950 August 2006

#### **Board of Directors**

Expires 2007 Janine Cormier
Expires 2007 Luis Morente
Expires 2006 Jim Miller
Expires 2006 Dean Viereck
Expires 2008 Irma Hughes
Expires 2008 Andy Tao

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#### Shows

John Reyes

#### Raffle Ticket Sales

Jane Brecht

For more information contact: Ruben Colmenares 562 421-9203 Joan Bailey 310 835-9614

Espie Quinn 714-968-0220 John Reyes 562-431-1142 Helen Powell 562-425-1687 Dr. Jim Miller 909-780-8322

Stories, articles and news items are welcome. The deadline is the 5th of the month.

Dennis Mackewicz 3198 Lilly Avenue Long Beach, CA 90808 (562) 430-0090 dwmackewicz@yahoo.com **Nonday**, August 28, 2006

Topic: "Miniature Cattleyas"

Speaker: Peter Lin

8 p.m.

Our speaker got the Orchid bug 25
Years ago. He then stopped due to
school and his career. Four Years ago
he started back up and boy has he
come a long way. He is a student Judge
with the AOS and has received many
awards. His focus has been mostly on
Cattleyas and he has created a great
PowerPoint slide show to share with us



all. He is one of the nicest people I know and why not, he works for the happy place we know as Disneyland. He will be providing the plant Table so I am sure will have some great Mini Catts and a lot more great plants to choose from.

#### Newsletter Advertisements

Advertising is now being accepted for our newsletter. The size and number of ads may be limited at the discretion of the editor. Advertising Rates per issue are: ¼ page \$10, ½ page \$20, full page \$40.

#### Refreshments

Last names **A to H** please bring refreshments. There is a special drawing for those who bring food!

### President's Message August 2006

I have been on a summer hiatus with vacation, overtime assignments, and remodeling, but I am back now. I have had a number of projects that had been taking a lot of my time but hey that's what summer is for...right? Anyway, for those that missed the last meeting it was wonderful time with our experienced growers. I heard that it went well. I had a greenhouse emergency in the middle of that heat wave, with my cooling system out, I needed to get it fixed, so **Dean Viereck and Espie Quinn** lead the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and then everyone took it over from there and they pitched in to make it a successful meeting. I hear that our meeting with our grower's panel was lead by **Espie Quinn**, **Harold Koopowitz** (in my stead), Jim Hoyle and Butch Arciaga. Thanks for sharing your growing expertise with us!

I heard that **Irma Hughes** was back in action and was at the last meeting. Glad to hear that she is doing better after her recent surgery! Thanks to the **Reisner's** for taking over the kitchen duties since **Dr. Miller** wasn't able to make it. Thanks to all that helped with the meeting, hope to see you at the next one.

Speaking of auctions, please start thinking about the SCOS Annual Auction this November and remember to start setting aside and grooming plants for sale in this year's auction. Let's beat last year's stunning success. The SCOS Annual Auction will be November 27<sup>th</sup> unless I hear otherwise from the board. With that date coming up soon, please be aware that our SCOS is looking for donations of plants, materials and/or gift certificates, so if you or somebody you know can help, all donations are greatly appreciated. As usual, we ask that only good quality plant material be brought to the auction. No "sickies", infested, burned, half dead, etc. need apply since our plant auction is also tied to our reputations as growers. A good rule of thumb is that if you'd buy it at an auction then it's probably worth bringing.

The annual auction is "THE" main funding source for all of the year-long expenses incurred by the SCOS, which includes among other things, the monthly rent for the Whaley Park Facility in Long Beach. Rent was increased this last year and is forecasted to continue to rise. Therefore in order to continue providing a forum for our wonderful members (A.K.A. "customers" to the vendors out there) we are asking for your enthusiastic support. I sincerely hope that you'll see the value in donating generously to our SCOS as this is our chance to get ahead for the next budget year. In addition to plants and gift certificates we are gladly accepting all types of orchid related donations. There will be more information to come after our next board meeting.

That's it for now, so if I don't see you first, I'll see you on the 28<sup>th</sup>, so take care until then and remember to bring a fellow orchid friend along to our next meeting. Join us as we share in our love of orchids,

Ruben Colmenares

#### **SCOC Newsletter Available via Email**

And at www.southcoastorchidsociety.com

Starting in **July** all current 2006 members will receive our newsletter attached to an email if we have your email address in addition to a mailed copy unless you have opted for the "Email-ONLY" option.

By replying to your email you can request "Discontinuing" these mailings at any time.

If you did NOT receive an emailed newsletter this month and WANT ONE, please send an email request to the editor at <a href="dwmackewicz@yahoo.com">dwmackewicz@yahoo.com</a>. Even if you think you have given us your email, we may not have "deciphered" it correctly so send us your email again.

#### Please consider the "Email-ONLY" Newsletter option.

In considering this option, realize it's an opportunity for your Society to save money in postage and printing.

Extra printed newsletters will be available at future meetings for those who get email copies but also want a hard copy. The savings on postage is still 50% of our costs. We will monitor the number of copies needed at our meetings for this purpose.

Thanks for considering the Email-ONLY option.

### **July Monthly Meeting**



#### Panel members at table are:

Butch Arciaga, Espie Quinn, Jim Hoyle and Harold Koopowitz

Special thanks go to Espie Quinn for getting the discussion going and the other panel members for sharing their expertise in growing orchids.



#### 2

#### July Panel - Questions and Answers

Below are a few comments from our very interesting July discussion which covered many topics.

#### **BACKYARDS**

Every backyard is different and orchid requirements vary. Use trial and error to find the best location and watering needs for your orchids.

#### WATERING ORCHIDS

1. During HOT MONTHS (like July)

Orchids Planted IN MEDIA

<u>drench</u> plants 3 times per week <u>mist</u> in between watering days

Orchids MOUNTED or in open baskets with no media around roots, e.g., Vandas

<u>drench</u> plants daily in morning (plants - leaves and roots)

TIP: Bare roots dry out between watering, therefore wet roots 15-30 minutes first to let roots rehydrate and then water / fertilize thoroughly.

mist plants several times daily after mourning drench

TIP: Spanish moss on roots and leafless stems helps improve/sustain desirable humidity but thin moss when it gets too thick.

2. During Winter Months

**IN MEDIA** 

drench plants weekly with little/no fertilizer

**MOUNTED** 

drench plants up to daily

TIP: To avoid black spots on leave of Vandas, wet roots only, i.e., avoid wetting leaves during cooler temperatures; cover overhead during rains / rainy season.

#### REPOTTING ORCHIDS

1. Repot when – root tips are just beginning to grow.

Why? Because newly growing roots that are already too long and big are easily damaged / broken during reporting. TIP: When buying bare-root orchids, look for plants showing the early stages of new root growth or bud development.

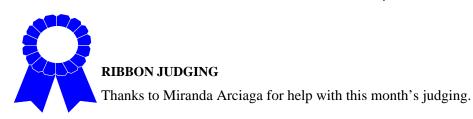
One member soaks newly purchased bare-root orchids (roots and leaves) in a solution before potting of Superthrive, vitamin B1 and kelp extract available at most nurseries using recommended concentrations

2. Don't roll old plastic pots to remove your orchids from an old container.

Why? Because orchid roots are succulent, brittle and easily damaged.

TIP: If roots are stuck to plastic pot, cut down sides (2-4 times) and gently peal old pot off roots; or break a clay pot apart to remove plant; or leave in old pot and put in larger pot (if old media is not a concern.)

Please turn to page 5



# Ribbon Judging July 2006

#### CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

1st Blc. Wianae 'Ching Hua' Janell & Harry Schuck

2<sup>nd</sup> C. futtata Albida x C. Penny Kurada

Miranda & Butch Arciaga

3<sup>rd</sup> C. loddigessi 'Herbrita' x Slc. Roya Evelyn

Kathy Synstelien

CULTURAL AWARD:

Blc. 'Burana Beauty' Mary Bell

#### PAPHIOPEDILUMS & PHRAGMIPIDIUMS

1<sup>st</sup> Paph. 'Julius' (#2) Miranda & Butch Arciaga

2<sup>nd</sup> Paph. 'William Ambler' Espie Quinn

3<sup>rd</sup> Paph. 'Avalon Mist' Miranda & Butch Arciaga

CULTURAL AWARD:

Paph. 'Julius' (#1) Miranda & Butch Arciaga

#### **VANDA ALLIANCE**

1<sup>st</sup> V. 'Robert's Delight' Miranda & Butch Arciaga

2<sup>nd</sup> V. 'Princess MiCasa' Bonnie Kroll

3<sup>rd</sup> V. tricolor Miranda & Butch Arciaga

CULTURAL AWARD:

Rhynchostylis gigantea Sumitra Bangchalotorn

#### **EPIDENDRUM / ENCYCLIA / BRASSIA ALLIANCE**

1<sup>st</sup> Encyclia ambigua Kathy Synstelien

2<sup>nd</sup> Epi. raniferum Miranda & Butch Arciaga

3<sup>rd</sup> Brassavola culcullata Kathy Synstelien

**CULTURAL AWARD:** 

Epidendrum raniferum Espie Quinn

#### **SPECIES**

1<sup>st</sup> Epidendrum conopseum Jim Hoyle 2<sup>nd</sup> Trichoceros platyceros Jim Hoyle 3<sup>rd</sup> Trichoceros platyceros Jim Hoyle

CULTURAL AWARD:

Pleurothallis hirsuta Jim Hoyle

Member's are requested to participate in The Plant Forum by sharing and displaying their blooming plants each month. We would like more members to bring in their plants for "show and tell" / Ribbon Judging.

It makes our meetings more interesting and each plant entitles you to a FREE RAFFLE TICKET for a chance to win a new orchid.

EACH MEMBER HELPING WITH JUDGING WILL RECEIVE A FREE RAFFLE TICKET FOR THEIR EFFORTS.

Janell Schuck, Ribbon Judging Coordinator

#### 

# South Bay Orchid Society 50th Anniversary Fall Show and Sale September 23rd (Sat.) and 24th (Sun.)

Sat. Sales: 9 am - 5 pm; Show: 11 am - 5 pm Sun. Sales & Show: 9 am - 5 pm South Coast Botanic Gardens 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

#### San Diego International Orchid Fair October 13, 14 & 15, 2006

#### **Quail Botanical Gardens**

a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Fee: Members Free; Non-members: Free with <u>Garden</u>

Admission

#### Information To Become a Member

For more info call (760) 436-3036, Ext. 206 or e-mail: info@qbgardens.com Directions

## Southland Orchid Show Committee "Hallowed Orchid" Show

October 20, 21, 22, 2006

**Huntington Botanical Gardens and Library** 

Volunteers for hosts & plant sales are needed each day for: 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM, 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM & 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM time slots and also volunteers for ribbon judging.

For More Information

Contact Dr. Graham A. Purcell (Malibu Orchid Society) @ (818) 985-3051 or gpurcellmd@earthlink.net

#### I need a small favor

I need a small favor..., and I sure hope you can help.?

If it's not too much trouble.?

I am going away on vacation and I need you to come over to water my plants while I am gone.

In the hot weather they'll probably need water twice a day.

Thanks a lot. I'll send you a postcard.

#### I've attached a photo for your reference.



#### **Roberta's Shaded Orchid Patio**



"This shady little 6' x 10' patio actually contains 4 distinct micro-climates. The walls (with plants on cork slabs) and the hanging area in the upper right (where the Vandas are hanging) get substantial light, and are lightly watered every day. A little lower down, there is substantial shade as well as daily watering, providing the shady, moist environment that works well for Masdavallias, Phragmipediums, and Paphiopedilums. Hanging up high, the environment is much drier and brighter, best for Cattleya and related genera, Oncidiums, Brassias, etc. Away from

the daily sprinklers, and lower down, the environment is shadier, and here is where the Miltonias, Odontoglossums, and where just about everything else can be found."

Editor's Note: For detail information on the orchids growing outdoors in this Orange County home check the following web site: http://fascinationoforchids.com/orchidcentral/shadeorchids.html

#### WANTED

## SCOS Member Pictures (\*) "How to know when things are Going Too Far"



"This is a picture of my bathtub with a PVC plant bench and my collection. which I put together when my mother-inlaw was dog, plant and house sitting for us while we were on vacation. It was so convenient that I hung a fluorescent light over it and left it set up until the next time we had house guests."

From Board Member Andy Tao

(\*) Please email or mail YOUR picture to the editor.

If you insist, your name can be a mystery in the newsletter but what a nice way to get to know one another.

#### July Panel - Questions and Answers - continued

#### **ORCHID PEST CONTROL**

In addition to using rubbing alcohol mixes and the use of tooth brushes to fight scale, mealy bug, aphids and the like, some suggest not getting that intimate with each pest by using the following:

Orthene – a systemic insecticide applied to plant leaves and roots in the watering solution so it absorbs into the plant.

Malathion – good for a variety of pest including ants.

TIP: Rotate using different products to prevent accumulation and resistance; also spray in the morning before any breezes and avoid inhaling!

Editor's Note: the editor hopes these notes are a reasonably accurate account of the discussions reported above. Apologies for any errors.

### South Coast Orchid Society

Dennis Mackewicz, Newsletter Editor 3198 Lilly Avenue Long Beach, CA 90808

Tho's Orchid

MONDAY, August 28th
Meeting at Whaley Park
7:30 Culture Session
8:00 p.m. Speaker

We have already **EMAILED** this **NEWSLTTER** to you if SCOS has your email address.

NOTE: Some spam and Junk-Mail filters block large group emailings. Check your email system & set it to allow emails from the editor - dwmackewicz@yahoo.com, e.g., add to your "Contacts" list. Also see page 2 in newsletter about the Email-ONLY option.



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