

2007 Officers

President	Jim Miller
1st Vice President	
2nd Vice President	Susan Ochsner
Recording Secretary	Margaret Nerio
Membership Secretary	Cassandra Smith
Treasurer	Mildred Carr
Immediate Past Pres.	Ruben Colmenares



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.

www.southcoastorchidsociety.com

South Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter

Founded in 1950

March 2007

Board of Directors

Expires 2007	Butch Arciaga
Expires 2007	John Reyes
Expires 2008	Irma Hughes
Expires 2008	Andy Tao
Expires 2009	Russ Nichols
Expires 2009	Ron Nash

Committees

AOS Judging Programs	Open
Orchid Digest	John Reyes
AOS Rep	Janel Schuck
Publicity	Janel Schuck
Southland Rep	Joan Bailey
Culture Sessions	Susan Ochsner
Ribbon Judging	Janel Schuck
Auditor	Open
Newsletter	Dennis Mackewicz
Kitchen	Marylyn Paulson

Shows

John Reyes

Opportunity Table and Silent Auction

Jane Brecht and Helen Powell

For more information contact:

Jim Miller	949-707-0728
Joan Bailey	310 835-9614
Susan Ochsner	562-425-7475
Cassandra Smith	714 249-8015
Mildred Carr	562-492-1205
Ruben Colmenares	562 421-9203

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

Monday, March 26, 2007

Speaker: **Loren Batchman - Casa de las Orquideas**

7:30 p.m. (New Time)

Loren started growing orchids in 1967 with cymbidiums, and made his first hybrid in 1969. He and his wife, Nancy, started their nursery, Casa de las Orquideas, in 1976, and are now the leading cymbidium hybridizer in the U.S. specializing in high color and unusual cymbidiums.

Loren has exhibited the grand champion cymbidium at the Santa Barbara show three times in the last 5 years, and the best orchid in that show once as well. He has received more than 100 AOS and CSA awards for his cymbidium hybrids, and has also received the Hudlow Medal from the Cymbidium Society for his new lines of hybridizing spotted cymbidiums.

Loren has been an AOS and CSA judge since 1983. All of their plants are grown outdoors under half an acre of shade cloth, and typically have about 60,000 plants at the nursery at any given time. Loren will also be supplying the plant table with flowering plants so don't miss out.

Culture Session
7:00 p.m. (new time)
"MY PET CATS"

Russ Nichols Russ will talk on his favorite orchids, **Cattleyas**.

Refreshments

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

President's Message

March 2007

I want to thank everyone who contributed to the planning and set up of our Society display at the Fascination of Orchids Show this year. The committee was spearheaded by John Reyes and Janell Schuck with assistance by Nupur Pandey, Millie Carr, Butch and Miranda Archiaga, plus more. The design was truly New Orleans Style with Janell's Award winning Paph. atop the center of the display. Harry and Janell Schuck's Paph. was awarded the **Best Specimen Orchid Plant, Any Genus, the Highest Point Scored Slipper Orchid, and a Culture award by the AOS.** Congratulations! I do not have the final numbers yet, but we also did well at the member plant sales during the show. Thank you to Ron and Mamie Nash who ran this function for the Show and practically lived there during that extended weekend.

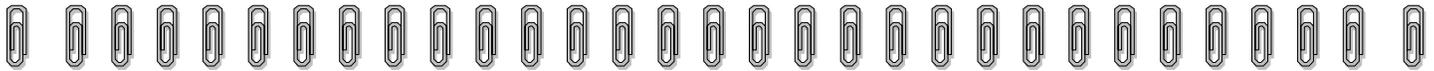
I also want to thank George Hatfield for his program on the 2007 Tokyo Dome Show. The pictures were great and so was the information George gave us about the show. We were indeed the first to see this program as George flew in from Tokyo that morning and then drove to long Beach for our meeting. Please thank George the next time you see him for the extra effort and a great plant table.

I have also received several inquires about the committee appointed to review and update the by-laws. Their recommendations, when completed, must be approved by the Officers and Directors and then presented to the entire membership for approval before they are effective.

This is a second reminder to mark your Calendar now for a different location for the May Meeting. There was a conflict with the early date on May 21st due to the Holiday. We have been able to secure the facility at Stearns Park only a few blocks away. The address is 4520 E. 23rd Street.

Have a great month. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Jim Miller



NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

Oh Happy Day! The January bank statement has arrived and the GREAT news is: We are in balance. These few words are like music to treasurers all around the globe.

The By-Laws require the accounts be audited annually by an auditor selected by the Executive Board and The Treasurer to have all books and accounts, at all reasonable times, for inspection by any Active Member of the Society.

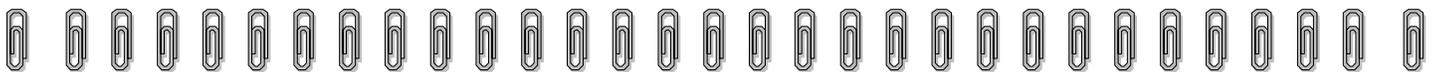
To be in compliance with our By-Law some changes have been made. These changes include, but are not limited to, processing and recording dues, plant purchases and plant sales. This will assure that transactions are balanced and processed in a timely fashion, that they are transparent to the membership and, as well, provide a paper trail for audit purposes.

Requisition forms have been developed for recording monies received for the opportunity table; when requesting a check for the speaker; entertainment costs; plant purchases; submitting plants for the silent auction and, most importantly, payment of dues. All of these forms will aid in the bookkeeping and recording effort and so we ask everyone to help by completing the appropriate form when necessary.

Other good news: We have filed our Biannual Corporation Status to the Secretary of State. The next government requirement to file is the income tax report. I should have this task completed before the end of the month.

I would like to thank everyone for your patience and understanding while we are transitioning to a new treasurer and, if you have any questions or suggestions, I can be contacted at 562-492-1205 or E-mail ZCARRDON@AOL.COM.

Mildred Carr, Treasurer



March / April Checklist

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

Continued on Page 6

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY:

We are working to publish an updated Membership Directory for 2007. I am planning to have these available at our **April** meeting for all members who have paid dues for 2007 **so please renew your membership by our next meeting.** I would like to include your name(s), address, phone number, and e-mail in the directory. If you **DO NOT** want something printed in the directory, please e-mail me or see me at the next meeting.

Sincerely,
Cassandra Smith
SCOS Membership Secretary



2007 South Coast Orchid Society Membership Form (*)

Membership in the SCOS is open to anyone. Membership dues are \$20.00 per year per household. New members may join at any monthly SCOS meetings by completing this membership form or by mailing it with your dues to our Treasurer:

SCOS/Mildred Carr
3862 Marron Ave
Long Beach, CA. 90807

Make checks payable to the "SCOS". You will begin receiving our monthly newsletter the following month.

Please Print Clearly Date: _____

Check One: Renewing Member New Member Guest Other (specify) _____

Contact information has not changed (for renewing members only!) Order Badge, \$5.00 additional charge

Print ONLY my name(s) in the Membership Directory Email-ONLY Newsletter Option

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Spouse/Partner: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Office Use Only: Amount Paid _____ Paid Via _____ Receipt Given/Sent _____ (Initial)

February Meeting



Nupur Pandey talks about Growing Orchid Supplies during the Culture Session



Speaker George Hatfield shows us pictures of the Tokyo Dome Orchid Show still going at the time.



Orchids on the Ribbon Judging Table





RIBBON JUDGING

Member's are requested to participate in The Plant Forum by sharing and displaying their blooming plants each month. 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.

Thanks to the following members for helping out with the judging in FEBRUARY: Jim Hoyle, Russ Nichols , Phil Phlocher, Ruben Colmenares & Espie Quinn.

EARLIER SCHEDULE BEGINS THIS MONTH - - - PLEASE HAVE YOUR PLANTS REGISTERED AND READY TO BE JUDGED BEFORE 7:15 P.M. AT OUR MARCH 26th MEETING.

Ribbon Judging February 2007

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

1 st Bl. Sunset Glory	Ruben Colmenares
2 nd Lc. Irene Learles	Espie Quinn
3 rd Laelia Goldstar	Ruben Colmenares

CYMBIDIUMS

1 st Cym. Ice Cascade 'Denham Court'	Espie Quinn
2 nd Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'	Russ Nichols
3 rd Cym. Strawberry Milk	Russ Nichols

CULTURAL AWARD

Cym. Unknown	Dennis Mackewicz
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DENDROBIUM ALLIANCE

1 st Den. speciosum	Espie Quinn
2 nd Den. Tie Dye	Ruben Colmenares
3 rd Den. Nagasaki	Bonnie Navens

CULTURAL AWARD

Den. speciosum	Espie Quinn
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ONCIDIUM & ALLIED GENERA

1 st Colmanara Wildcat 'Bobcat'	Dennis Mackewicz
2 nd Miltassia 'Sky Walker'	Cassandra Smith
3 rd Bllra. Tropical Splendor 'Golden Gate'	Dennis Mackewicz

PAPHIOPEDILUMS & PHRAGMEPIDIUMS

1 st Paph. delenatii 'Semi' x Paph. Pine Glow	Butch & Miranda Arciaga
2 nd Paph. spicerianum	Butch & Miranda Arciaga
3 rd Paph. Emerald Sea x Colonist	Bess & Joe Graffio

VANDA ALLIANCE

1 st Angraecum sesquipedale	Ruben Colmenares
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CULTURAL AWARD

Angraecum sesquipedale	Ruben Colmenares
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SPECIES

1 st Den. bellatulum	Doris & Larry Arakaki
2 nd Masdevallia decumana	Russ Nichols

Janell Schuck, Ribbon Judging Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

San Diego County Orchid Society Show March 23-25

Scottish Rite Center in Mission Valley
1895 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, CA
Info: www.sdorchids.com

Mariposa Gardens Spring Festival & Orchid Sale March 31, 9am to 3pm

6664 South St., Lakewood, CA
Info: (562) 920-5588

Casa de las Orquideas "Great Freeze of 2007" Sale March 31, 10 AM to 4 PM special one-day sale

170 S. Nardo Ave., Solana Beach, CA 92075
Info: casa@orquideas.com or (858) 755-7572

ORCHID SUN LOVERS

Since most of these plants will tolerate near full-sun conditions in sub-tropical or tropical areas, they will grow and flower nicely in our (usually) temperate areas with our cooling breezes from the ocean. Be aware however that temperatures above 80° F and low humidity may cause leaf burn from direct sun. Afternoon sun and reflective heat from a wall should also be avoided. Move plants slowly into more sun and let the orchid's leaf color and new growths tell you if it likes its location.

Ansellia	Brassavola cucullata
Brassavola digbyana	Brassavola glauca
Brassavola nodosa	Catasetum
Cymbidiums (wide range between hybrids)	
Dendrobium-Evergreen types	
Diacrium	Epidendrums (reed-type)
Oncidium species	Renanthera species
Schombocattleya	Schomburgkia
Vanda species	Vanilla

March / April Checklist - Continued

Cattleya

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group - bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* - is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Miltoniopsis

This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold.

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy.

The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging - even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

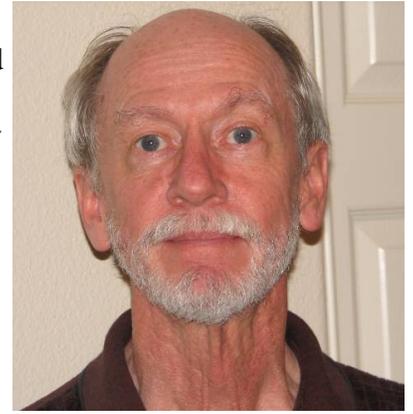
Pleurothallids

Members in this large and increasingly popular group will be looking their best now. If plants are not in flower, the next few months provide an excellent time to divide if needed or repot into fresh mix. Taking care of these tasks now will allow enough time for your plants to become established before the hot weather arrives.

Prepared by Ned Nash and James Rose.

SCOS' Q & A Column

At our February meeting, Bonnie Kroll asked why many of her cymbidiums did not get flower spikes this year. I will assume Bonnie is growing hybrid Cymbidiums outdoors. Since I have grown Cymbidiums over the years, though not my primary interest, I will share some of my experiences, but I highly recommend joining the Cymbidium Society of America, and possibly one of the orchid societies that focus on these plants (e.g., the Gardena Orchid Society). Among general texts, Rebecca Northen's Home Orchid Growing has an informative section on Cymbidiums. I also recommend visiting local nurseries that specialize in Cymbidiums: George Hatfield, Orchids Royale, Gallup and Stribling, Cal-Orchid, and Santa Barbara Orchid Estate are a few good ones.



It is hard to imagine a better orchid for overcoming the mid-winter blahs. Large Cymbidiums produce multiple spikes of large, long-lasting flowers in a variety of colors, often at a time when few other orchids are blooming for outdoor growers. Pendulous Cymbidiums are typically floriferous, with gently cascading sprays of flowers from relatively small plants.

Light is a major component of factors necessary for flowering. Also, for most hybrids available locally, winter overnight low temperatures of 55 degrees or cooler are important. Other factors will have less influence on flowering, but may compound other problems to lower the sum of factors needed for flowering below the threshold needed to spike. Finally, I have heard some tetraploids (4N) do not bloom each year.

Cymbidiums generally grow well in Southern California, in areas near the ocean, where humidity stays high most of the time. That said, you do need to be aware of conditions in your area. One member of the Malibu Orchid Society told me he lived in the San Fernando Valley, where the humidity averaged just 7% during the summer, and so he could not grow Cymbidiums outdoors. And even near the coast, our humidity is driven down well below average by Santa Ana winds. When the Santa Ana winds blow, I raise the humidity around my Cyms by hosing down the patio area around them, or watering those that are hanging (the pendulous types). Generally, with shade of 50 to 70 percent, the pendulous plants make it through a Santa Ana condition unscathed. Also, I have on occasion moved some of the larger Cymbidiums out of the direct sun to avoid burned leaves.

Cymbidiums do well grown under shade of around 50%, but there is a great range (about 40-80%) in places like coastal Southern California, where other conditions are nearly ideal. I have seen Cymbidiums growing under large trees, planted in the ground (though their roots were most likely in an orchid-friendly mix). In my yard, the shaded areas are generally occupied by other orchids, so the Cyms live where they can. We have a group of larger Cyms that live around the south-east corner of the house, where they get full sun starting relatively early in the morning up to about 1:00 pm, and mostly shade (but a fair amount of reflected light) for the remainder of the day. Our pendulous Cyms hang over the deck on the south side of the house, under a trellis covered with 50% shade cloth, where they get light all day long; around winter, when the sun is at a low angle, some of them get direct light during midday. All our mature Cymbidiums save one flowered this year.

To finish, a few more general rules for Cymbidium culture. Though Cymbidiums are regarded as terrestrial, the roots still need air, so a loose, well draining mix is required for potting. Apply a balanced fertilizer (e.g., 20-20-20) for growth April through September, and a lower nitrogen formula (e.g., 6-30-30) for flowering October through March. If planted in fine fir bark, use higher nitrogen (30-10-10) in the growing season. Tap water is OK (the hardness not being an overwhelming factor), and the **plants should not dry out between waterings.**

Russ Nichols

Editor's Note: Thank you Russ Nichols. Russ is a SCOS Director and has volunteered to write this column on a monthly basis.

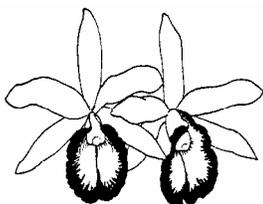
South Coast Orchid Society

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



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

NOTE: Some spam and Junk-Mail filters block large group email-ings. Check your email system & set it to allow emails from the editor - dwmackewicz@yahoo.com, e.g., add to your "Contacts" list.



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<p>Carter & Holmes, Inc. Mary & Owen Holmes P.O. Box 668 Newberry, SC 29108 (800) 873-7086 www.carterandholmes.com</p>	<p>Hatfield Orchids George Hatfield (805) 644-8413 george@hatfieldsorchids.com www.hatfieldorchids.com</p>	<p>Orange County Farm Supply Christopher Roy 1828 West Chapman Orange, CA 92868 (714) 968-6500</p>	<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Paul Gripp 1250 Orchid Drive Santa Barbara, CA 93111 (800) 553-3387 www.sborchid.com</p>	<p>Wise Orchids Ed & Donna Wise 3524 Merinda Lane Yorba Linda, CA (714) 524-1730 orchides@pacbell.net</p>
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