

## 2007 Officers

President	Jim Miller
1st Vice President	Janell Schuck
2nd Vice President	
Recording Secretary	Margaret Nerio
Membership Secretary	Kathy 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 7:00.

[www.southcoastorchidsociety.com](http://www.southcoastorchidsociety.com)

# South Coast Orchid Society

Newsletter

Founded in 1950

October 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	Janell Schuck
AOS Rep	John Reyes
Publicity	Janell Schuck
Culture Sessions	Janell Schuck
Ribbon Judging	Russ Nichols
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
Janell Schuck	562-431-5090
Kathy Smith	562-423-2682
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  
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Long Beach, CA 90808  
(562) 430-0090

[dwmackewicz@yahoo.com](mailto:dwmackewicz@yahoo.com)

Monday, October 22, 2007

## Orchid Growing - Panel Discussion & Questions

7:30 p.m.

South Coast Orchid Society has had several outstanding programs this year presented by outside speakers giving us much information on dealing with our collections. This month's meeting will also be very informative. A panel discussion and a very strong question and answer session will be the focus, with input from our membership regarding growing better orchids out of door's in our area.

It would be very helpful if our members would take a little time to write down some questions that you would like to have answered. Or bring in a plant that you are having a difficult time growing for member's of the panel to observe.

A few people have volunteered to assist with this program, but if you are interested in being part of the panel and tell we hobbyists about your favorite orchid and the care and culture necessary to grow them, please contact Janell at (562) 431-5090 so she can coordinate this panel.

Janell Schuck

## Culture Session

7:00 p.m.

Dennis Mackewicz

"Orchid Viruses - Demo of New Test"

## SCOS Orchid Auction

Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.

## Refreshments

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



## September Meeting

Culture Session by  
< Shawn Bird

Featured Speaker  
Fred Clarke >



## Orchids on the Ribbon Judging Table



## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER CHECKLIST

Prepared by Ned Nash and James Rose\*

### Cattleya

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom. Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold. This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too. Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

### Cycnoches

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches ventricosum*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

### Cymbidium

Through diligent modern breeding programs, the cymbidium season gets stretched longer and longer. Now we can expect to have flowers open as early as September and October. Stake inflorescences and move the plants to a shadier location to help the flowers develop successfully. Because the plants will have warmth tolerance "built in" genetically, keeping the plants as cool as possible will help prevent bud curl. For the midseason varieties, inflorescences should be initiated by now. Feed plants on a regular schedule with a balanced fertilizer (20-20-20) and shade the plants lightly.

### Dendrobium

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

### Paphiopedilum

Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

### Phalaenopsis

The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid type fertilizer, is beneficial.

### **Dendrobium primulinum**

**Deciduous, caned species from India**

These plants need a dry rest after the leaves fall in autumn. A well drained pot and a rich media, especially if repotted in spring, will produce a robust stem that produces its flowers in pairs along the stem in spring. Use lots of water and fertilizer with the new growth, a good sunny position and an intermediate climate.

*Dendrobium primulinum* grows much like *Dendrobium anosum*, and this deciduous type of *Dendrobium* can be grown in the orchid house in almost any climate, provided the plants are dry.



(\*). James & Lauris Rose own Cal-Orchids in Santa Barbara

**South Coast Orchid Society  
Ribbon Judging Results  
September 24, 2007**



**Cattleya (Laeliinae Subtribe)**

First	Lc. Chyang 'Gun Swa' (Ruby Lips)	Joe & Bess Graffio
Second	Blc. Sybil Farwell	Joe & Bess Graffio
Third	Bc. Little Mermaid 'Janet'	Doris & Larry Arakakis
Culture	Cattleya Bactia 'Janet'	Reuben Colmenares

**Oncidium (Oncidiinae Subtribe)**

First	Rossioglossum grande	Espie Quinn
Second	Mtssa. unknown	Dennis Mackewicz
Culture	Oncidium Comete	Doris & Larry Arakakis

**Phalaenopsis (Sarcantinae Subtribe)**

First	Vanda Patchara Delight	Butch & Miranda Arciaga
Second	Vanda unknown	Tom Rue

**Paph & Phrag (Cyprpedioideae Subfamily)**

First	Paph. Glauco-lowii	John Reyes
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**Dendrobium (Dendrobiinae Subtribe)**

First	Den. amabile	Kathy Synstelien
Second	Den. brachteosum	Doris & Larry Arakakis

Thanks to Jim Hoyle for helping with the judging.



**Ribbon Recycling**

At the October SCOS Board Meeting the following policy was approved.

Starting with our October 2007 meeting, members winning awards (first, second, or third place or culture ribbons) for exhibiting their plants will receive one opportunity ticket for each ribbon returned to the

SCOS. As several people have suggested, not everyone wants to keep the ribbons we award each meeting. Because the ribbons represent a sizeable expense to the SCOS, it makes sense to offer an incentive to return awarded ribbons. So, an opportunity ticket will be exchanged for each ribbon returned. This does not change the scoring, nor the reporting in the newsletter.

Russ Nichols

**Dendrobium Phalaenopsis Southern California Culture**

This warm growing type of Dendrobium is usually referred to as the Phalaenopsis type Dendrobium. The plant is evergreen and flower spikes emanate from the top of the pseudobulb on a raceme. Sometimes spikes are produced several years in a row from the same pseudobulb. New bulbs also produce new spikes and a large plant can be quite spectacular.

**TEMPERATURE:** The Phalaenopsis type of Dendrobium prefers a greenhouse or sheltered area. This warm grower likes temperatures in the 60° to 70° F. range (16° to 18° C.) with good air movement.

**WATERING:** Since this is an evergreen it should be kept moist at all times. During the growing season they require a great deal of water. When the flower spikes appear that is the time to reduce your watering but be sure not to allow the canes or pseudobulbs to shrivel. Watering about once a week should be adequate. During very hot dry spells increase your watering cycle to once every three or four days.

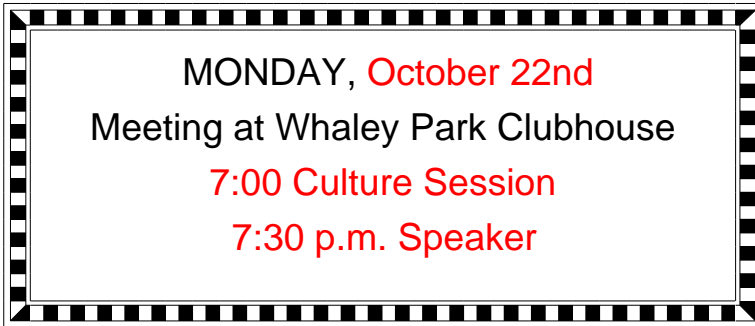
**FERTILIZING:** In the spring when there is new growth showing that is the time to start fertilizing with high nitrogen. It does not harm to fertilize every time you water provided you mix your fertilizer half the strength recommended by the manufacturer. In July or August start using fertilizer that is high in phosphorus.

**LIGHT:** Only about 50% shading is required during most of the year. Make sure that there is adequate air movement at all times, day or night. It is generally recommended that you have about 1500-3000 foot candles of light as a minimum for proper growth.

**POTTING MEDIUM:** In So. Cal. fine bark (1/8 to 1/4") is an excellent medium. Other medium are osmunda, sphagnum moss, New Zealand moss, charcoal, blue granite, and/or lava rock. As with all orchid plants good drainage is a must. Dendrobiums as a group like very small pots. As an example, a plant with 3 to 4 pseudobulbs and about 10 to 15" tall, a 3 to 4" pot is adequate.

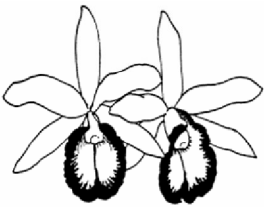
# South Coast Orchid Society

Dennis Mackewicz, Newsletter Editor  
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