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 Treasurer 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

March 2004

## Board of Directors

Expires 2006 Jim Miller  
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## For more information contact:

John Reyes 562-431-1142  
 pjreyes@earthlink.net  
 Espie Quinn 714-968-0220  
 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.

Teresa Martin  
 29 Redondo Ave  
 Long Beach, CA 90803  
 tjmartin3@charter.net

## March Program

Monday, March 22, 2004

8:00 p.m.

**The South Coast Orchid Society Proudly Presents  
 Speaker Brian Gerhard of Down Under Orchids  
 "AUSTRALIAN NATIVE DENDROBIUMS  
 AND THEIR FUTURE BREEDING WITH PAPUA  
 NEW GUINEA SPECIES AND HYBRIDS"**

Brian has been seriously growing orchids for around 25 years, and used to grow anything and everything. Whilst he was growing in those early years he was employed by Qantas Airways as a Flight Attendant on the international side. The job was a definite benefit, as he would carefully select plants from countries such as Thailand, the Philippines, Hawaii and from the mainland USA and import them back to Australia. Then came the big day when Down Under Native Orchids was purchased by Phena (his wife) and Brian. D.U.N.O. is arguably the premier Aussie Native Orchid breeder, grower and award winner in his fair country.

Brian and his wife have carried on the tradition of the previous owners of using top quality parents, and have a definitive direction in all of their breeding, be it for color, shape, floriferousness (flower count) or texture. D.U.N.O. has received numerous national (Aussie) awards as well as countless show Champions and Grand Champions and awards. All the breeding, growing and laboratory work is done on their premises by Phena and Brian, with the help of one of their three daughters. D.U.N.O. is just 2 hours north of the world's most beautiful Harbour City of Sydney and the grounds and their hospitality is phenomenal. The youngest daughter, Venessa and her husband David are the Webmasters for the Website [www.duno.com.au](http://www.duno.com.au) and have received countless comments (positive) and compliments on their work.

The SCOS is proud to host our first international speaker of the year and this meeting is not to be missed. Did you know that the climate around Sydney and the Central Coast is very similar to Southern California. "So what." you may say? That means that the plants that Brian brings for the plant table will likely be able to grow (and thrive) under your patio or outdoors. Get your pots and mix ready, as plants that are shipped internationally are shipped bare root. Join us and together with our orchids we'll grow!



## SCOS RIBBON JUDGING February 2004

### Cattleya Alliance

**Cultural:** Lc. El Cerrito 'Spring Bouquet' - Ruben Colmenares

**First:** Slc Golden Treat x Mayan Embers - Ruben Colmenares

**Second:** Lc. Tropical Treat - Ruben Colmenares

**Third:** Slc. Golden Treat - Ruben Colmenares

### Cymbidium

**Cultural:** Cym. Plum Good - B&C Sibal

**First:** Cym. Alison Shaw - John Reyes

**Second:** Cym. Peepers Jeepers - B&C Sibal

**Third:** Cym. Unknown - S. Bangchalatoron  
Cym. Sarah Jean - Ruben Colmenares

### Paphiopedilum

**First:** P. Greensuds - John Reyes

### Species

**Cultural:** Den. Kinqianum - B&C Sibal

**First:** L. Anceps - H&J Schuck

**Second:** Coel. Mossiae - Ruben Colmenares

A Big 'Thank You' to the judges:  
Irma Hughes & Espie Quinn.

To all members, please bring in your flowering plants for judging at the Plant Forum. For each plant that you bring, you receive a free raffle ticket for a chance to win a plant from the plant table.

### ~ **FINAL REMINDER** ~

If you would like to be included in the SCOS roster please send your dues by March 31.

Please send your payment to:

Helen Powell

4209 Blackthorne Ave.

Long Beach, CA 90808-1502

## President's Message

February was a good month for our Society. Many of our members were major contributors to the successful Fascination of Orchids Show at South Coast Plaza. The combination of our plant sales and our first place prize money for best society orchid display brought in more than \$1300 into our treasury. Additionally Ruben Colmenares won several individual awards.

Ruben had a great program planned. However our speaker, Helmut Rohri, experienced a medical problem half way through his presentation and was taken to the hospital by the Paramedics. I spoke with Helmut and his wife the next day and he was doing fine. Thanks to everyone that helped Helmut at the meeting and we wish him continued health.

Thanks to all our members who support our meetings.

John Reyes  
President

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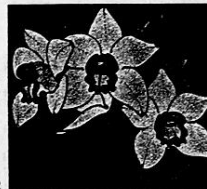
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### **Orchid Culture Sessions**

We have listened and have heard that some hands on orchid growing tips and discussions would be useful to our members.

Starting in March the SCOS will begin hosting "Orchid Culture Sessions" to demonstrate, answer and talk about your orchid growing questions. This coming topic will be about general springtime orchid care.

We will conduct a brief survey at the end of the 15 minute sessions to come up with the next month's topic.

### **FEBRUARY SPEAKER UPDATE:**

For those of you that attended our last meeting — we had quite a scare. During the course of the meeting our speaker Helmut Rohrl fell ill. I am glad to report that he is at home recovering. After his trip to the local hospital, he was diagnosed with a light stroke. I had the opportunity to sit and talk with his wife while we waited there at the hospital and all I can say is that she is a wonderful loving person and expressed great gratitude to all those that assisted. Thank You! A "Get Well" card was sent on behalf of the society and if you wish to send him a note directly you can and are encouraged to send your best wishes for a speedy recovery. His e-mail address is [Hrohrl@ucsd.edu](mailto:Hrohrl@ucsd.edu) and the address to which you can send him snail mail is:

Helmut Rohrl  
9322 La Jolla Farms Road  
La Jolla, CA 92037-1125

Ruben Colmenares  
SCOS Programs Chair

**Welcome  
New SCOS Member !**

**Janine Slane**

### **A LITTLE ORCHID BACKGROUND.....**

For thousands of years in every continent man has had direct contact with orchids. In Europe, where cultivation dates back to the ancient civilizations of the Mediterranean, the fathers of orchidology are considered to be the Greek philosopher Theophrastus (372? - 287 B.C.) and, much later, the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus (1707 -78).

It was Theophrastus who first used the Greek word orchis to indicate the particular group of plants whose roots, dried and chopped, were used in the traditional pharmacopoeia of Greece and neighboring Asia Minor as antidepressants and stimulants, and even today in some rural areas of these countries "salep," a nutritious drink prepared from the dried tubers of certain orchids, is not uncommonly found. It was not until the mid eighteenth century that the name was applied to the whole family of orchids in Linnaeus' *Species Plantarum*, which marked the beginning of modern plant taxonomy.

However, besides Theophrastus and Linnaeus, many other people were interested in orchids principally as medicinal plants, and this is testified by references in the medical books and herbals of men such as Dioscorides (first century A.D.), Otto Brunfels of Strasburg (c.1488-1534), Leonard Fuchs (1501-66) and John Gerard (1542-1612).

In China some 2,500 years ago, Confucius commended orchids for their beauty and scent and the first book on the cultivation of orchids, giving descriptions of species and varieties, was probably written in Chinese in around the year A.D. 1000.

**!!! Upcoming Orchid Events !!!**

**59th Annual Santa Barbara  
International Orchid Show  
March 19-21, 2004**

**Earl Warren Showgrounds, Exhibit Hall  
3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA  
[sborchid@west.net](mailto:sborchid@west.net); [www.sborchidshow.com](http://www.sborchidshow.com)**

**29th Annual Cymbidium Congress  
March 20, 2004**

**8:30 - 4:30 pm**

**University Club of Santa Barbara  
1332 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

**Contact/Info: [asvoboda@earthlink.net](mailto:asvoboda@earthlink.net)**

**Orchids California Style**

**58th Annual Spring Show & Plant Sale  
San Diego County Orchid Society  
March 26-28, 2004**

**Scottish Rite Center (Mission Valley)  
1895 Camino del Rio South  
San Diego**

**Show Info: Ivan Harrison (619)448-3312**

**JA-RO-CA Orchids**

**10th Annual Open House and Sale  
April 3-4 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
14737 Palm Avenue  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745  
(626) 336-3641**

**Sacramento Orchid Society  
Spring Show  
April 17-18**

**Scottish Rite Masonic Center  
6151 H Street, Sacramento, CA  
Contact: Richard Heisler  
6375 Reservoir Dr., Granite Bay, CA  
95746  
(916) 989-1650.**

**7th Annual "Oceans of Orchids"  
Show and Plant Sale**

**Newport Harbor Orchid Society  
May 1-2, 2004**

**Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community  
Center  
1845 Park, Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
Nancy Benay (949) 552-7713**

## **ORCHIDS A TO Z**

**"C"**

### **CATTLEYA**

**TRIBE Epidendreae**

**SUBTRIBE Laeliinae**

Cattleya is a genus of 48 species distributed throughout mainland tropical America. The genus is characterized by the presence of cylindrical pseudobulbs of several nodes with apical, thick leaves; a racemose inflorescence with a sheath at the base, the usually large and showy flowers; and the four hard clavate pollinia.

These are epiphytic plants usually of wet forests at elevations from sea level to 1,500 meters. The majority of the species are found in the tops of tall trees in moist to wet forest.

Most of the species can be cultivated in the intermediate house with abundant water provided during the growing season and less water while resting.

This genus, and the man-made hybrids with species of *Laelia*, *Rhynchoiaelia*, *Sophranitis* and some lesser genera, have provided the majority of orchid enthusiasts with the prime source of their interest, challenges, victories, and pride in orchid growing. The spectacular flowers of most of the species and the hybrids produced from them have dominated the florist market for the last century as the premier flower. Endless hours of gratification, frustration and envy have resulted from the cultivation of these orchids. Outrageous prices have been paid for particularly choice, awarded clones.



#### **Refreshments**

**Last Names A to F  
Please bring refreshments. There is a special drawing for those who bring food!**



# South Coast Orchid Society

Teresa Martin, Newsletter Editor  
29 Redondo Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90803-2631



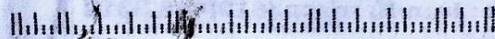
**MONDAY, March 22**

**Meeting at  
Whaley Park**

**7 p.m. Judging  
8 p.m. Speaker**

Members are welcome to come early  
and view AOS judging in the small hall.

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**We wish to thank the following commercial  
vendors for their generosity and support.**

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<b>Lothlorien Orchids</b> Charles "Butch" Wekerle-Trun P. O. Box 82913 San Diego, CA 92138 (619) 280-7449	<b>Mariposa Gardens</b> Ron Hill 6664 South Street Lakewood, CA 90713 (562) 920-5588	<b>The Rowland Collection</b> Pat Rowland 12446 Georgian St. Garden Grove, CA 92841 (714) 892-3502	<b>Green System International</b> 20362 Birch St. Newport Beach, CA 92660	<b>Tropical Orchid Farm</b> Jeffrey Parker & Kathleen Klert P.O. Box 170 Haiku, Maui, HI 96708