



Phalaenopsis George Vasquez

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.
“Orchids for Amateurs”
Founded July, 1957
The
INFLORESCENCE

May, 2007

Web site: www.southbayorchidsociety.com

Saturday May 19, 2007

11:00 AM-2PM

ZUMA CANYON ORCHIDS

5949 Bonsall Dr., Malibu CA

South Bay Orchid Society Board:

President:

Ned Patton-----310-944-9798

Email:-----epatton1@earthlink.net

1st Vice President:

Nick Braemer-----310-560-4384

Email:-----orchidnick@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President:

Ron Henry -----310-374-9699

Email:-----orkidguy@earthlink.net

Treasurer:

Jim Rowley-----310-376-3542

Email:-----jrowley1961@yahoo.com

(Please note this is a new email address)

Secretary:

Polly Kinsinger-----310-374-6471

Membership:

Susann Patton-----310-944-9798

Email:-----slpatton@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor:

Ned Patton-----310-944-9798

Email:-----epatton1@earthlink.net

Past President :

Marla Corey-----310-833-1918

Email:-----marlacorey@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster/Publicity:

Don Goss-----310-316-3595

Email:-----webmstr@1stinmedia.com

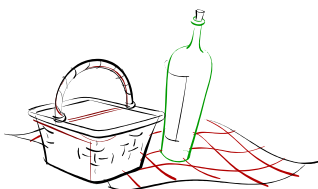
Show Committee Chairs:

Marc Massari-----310-220-3507

Email-----marc@streamsintl.com

Marla Corey-----310-833-1918

Email-----marlacorey@sbcglobla.net



No speaker this month. We do however have a picnic to attend at Zuma Canyon Orchids where there will be plenty of fajita meat- both chicken and beef with all the fixin's. Salads, beverages and chips will also be presented. Some of us bring our

own wine, beer or whatever we enjoy with our grilled fajitas. There will be a salsa competition with George Vasquez—our host— who is also our official salsa judge. Last year Marla won, so the challenge is on to unseat her. She claimed being a Texan helped. After judging



everybody got to taste all of the entries, of which there were almost a dozen. I loved all of them—some were hot and some were not. I look forward to this years entries. We were also given tours of the greenhouses and many of us bought our fill of Phalaenopsis in many colors. George and his family have been developing and growing orchids, mostly Phalaenopsis for many years. The grounds there are really spectacular, although I heard they

lost some of their avocado trees from our freeze this year. It may be a warm day during our picnic, but under the trees at the Zuma Canyon picnic area the weather is just fine. George will present a potting demonstration for us and this is a good time to query an expert grower (and an AOS Judge) up close and personal about growing problems we may be having at home. At the end we do an opportunity table with everybody getting an orchid free, usually in full bloom. In short there is fun to be had by all!! I encourage everybody to come, even if you are a newer member and feel like you don't know anybody. What a great way to meet other members. If you need a ride give Ron or us a call and we will find you a seat.

Ned and Susann

President's Message

Well—we had an election, and the results are in this Newsletter. Marla is going to be our fearless leader again, and we have a great group of leaders for the Society to help Marla make the next couple of years be even better. My congratulations to all of the winners, you are all great friends to have.

I have only two more of these to write—since I get a badge at the June Installation Banquet that says “Past President”. In ways I think I will miss this, and in other ways I’m sure I won’t. Like I have said a number of times, I think that we have made some progress, but I know that there is a lot more to be done. We have had our controversies, and have gotten past a number of our difficulties. And, like I have said a number of times, controversy is a healthy thing in a group like ours, as long as everyone has the interests of the Society in mind rather than their own. So, I think that for these last two messages in the Inflorescence, I want to talk a little about the current state of the Society and what I think our future ought to hold for us.

First—the State of the Society is GOOD. Financially, we are slowly growing the very nice nest egg that has been built up over the years, and the upcoming Board is a group of fiscally responsible people who are strongly motivated to ensure that our nest egg keeps growing. In fact, our financial position and operation is the envy of most other Orchid Societies in the local area. You can’t have fun as a Society if you are constantly worrying about how you’re going to pay for what you do.

And, we have over the past couple of years re-established our prime goals as a Society. We have had many discussions in Board meetings about who we are and how we were originally organized, and our decisions as a Board have been guided by the founding principles of SBOS—to further the enjoyment, cultivation, and education of the public about orchids. That’s why we have Orchids 101 and 102 at our shows. The shows aren’t all about making money for the Society, they are about spreading the Word to the general public. We have even talked about becoming a 501.c.3 organization—for those of you that understand what that is. If you don’t, please ask me and I will give you a very brief lesson.

So, what about the future. Where are we headed? What do we do? Do we just keep going along the same road that we have gone along in the past? We have been very successful doing just that, and are the envy of most other Orchid Societies. Will that lead us really into the future? Has the nature of the orchid world changed enough that we also need to change? I have my ideas about where we need to go, and I really want yours. My fondest wish is to be a part of this Society until they plant me in the ground.

Later, Ned

NO CULTURE SESSION FOR THIS MONTH—since there is no meeting. But there will be plenty of cultural information on Phalaenopsis at the Picnic May 19, 2007.

Thank you all for coming and voting at the last meeting. These are the final results.

New Officers for the 2007-2008 Year

Please join us at the Banquet to usher in our newest leaders. Details are on the Refrigerator door(page 7) Our New Officers are:

Marla Corey - President

Susann Patton - 1st VP

Ron Henry - 2nd VP

Polly Kinsinger - Secretary

Jim Rowley - Treasurer

Olga Cutting - Membership

Nick Braemer; Marc Massari and Tom Renger - Directors

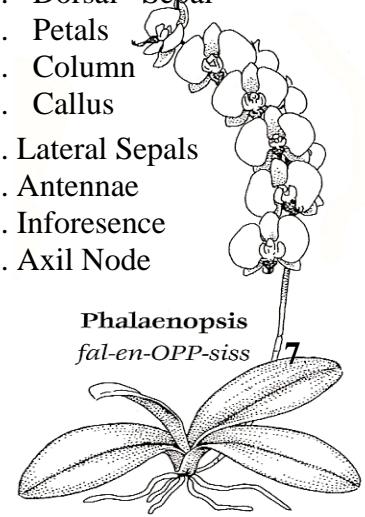
So you want to grow a Big Leaf Orchid?

Susann Patton

Phalaenopsis have enjoyed an immense dominance in the marketplace of orchid flowers for some time now. This popularity is due to their wide range of colors, their low acquisition cost and their simplistic beauty in the presentation of their flowers. These flowers are seen everywhere from the most sophisticated environments to the everyday discount supermarkets. Most commonly when I am asked ‘how to grow my orchid?’, I have to inquire what type of orchids it is. Even with people not knowing what they have, I can describe it to them and they can readily confirm that it is the plant they bought or were given and that they would



1. Dorsal Sepal
2. Petals
3. Column
4. Callus
5. Lateral Sepals
6. Antennae
7. Inflorescence
8. Axil Node



Phalaenopsis
fal-en-OPP-siss

like to keep it in bloom or re-bloom it. Above is the basic layout of the flower. Like Cattleyas they are symmetrical from the center out. The plant has broad thick flat leaves, which grow from inside of the base of the last leaf, forming a kind of support area that I hesitate to call a stem because a stem has certain properties that this type of supportive growth does not. This type of growth is called monopodial growth. Monopodial means single foot; I guess when the guys who described the growth of these plants they weren't able to do so any better than I. They grow upward rather than along a horizontal rhizome like that seen with Cattleyas (but you don't call that type of growth polypodial?). The inflorescence is produced from the area between the stem (?) and leaf called the axil, usually down near the bottom area of the plant (8).



Under normal conditions the inflorescence will start in the fall, as slight temperature changes cause the initiation of flowering. Because they are easily manipulated by temperatures, growers can control the environments the plants are grown in, producing plants in flower any time during the year. This is something which only adds to their popularity.

Now a word on the ‘different’ types of Phalaenopsis. The most commonly seen plants are the large white or pink flowers, just called ‘large flowered’ Phalaenopsis. The first phalaenopsis described was the *Phalaenopsis aphrodite* in 1704 followed by *Phalaenopsis amabilis* fifty years later. *Phalaenopsis equestris* was found in 1843 and the first hybrid was described in 1853 and was Phal x intermediate. We have come a long way since then (note pictures on next page). Now all shades of pinks are available, as well as patterns and stripes; whites with red lips. I just this last month saw a pale orange with red lips. Rich and pale yellows are now common, even with stripes, spots or bars. There are what we call Harlequin types with irregular nearly black blotching over different colors. These were developed from a mutated form of Phal. Golden Poker. The color pattern varies from flower to flower creating unusual patterns, so they are indeed different.

Most Phalaenopsis species come from an area which includes northern India, southern China and northern Australia. These species; of which there are about 80 and are mostly found on mossy trees in shady habitats with high humidity or steamy environments that don't have much for seasons. Their leaves are their storage units, lacking the pseudo-bulbs found with Cattleya—though they are epiphytes, growing on trees, or on rocks. For culture purposes keep in mind that they need consistent moisture around their roots, along with heat and humidity. But, and here's the but; some species are also found in seasonally dry or cooler areas.





Phalaenopsis x intermedia (aphrodite x equestris)

Phalaenopsis aphrodite; amabilis and equestris

This is why it is important to understand where your plant originated through its parentage. The above species are the basis for the large flowering modern hybrids and are the easiest to grow, requiring the same warm and humid growing environments as the original species. If you do it right you can get up to 20 five-inch flowers on an inflorescence (pure beauty to me). These large flowers have antennae (6) flowing from the bottom of their lips, which distinguishes them from another type of Phalaenopsis, what some call the novelty types. These are what I have seen referred to as the “sturdy-flowering type” and form the next group of Phalaenopsis. The flowers have a heavier substance, are smaller and star shaped and the lips don’t have antennae (6) at the end. The



Phal. violacea (Malayan form)



Phal. violacea (Borneo form)



Phal. amboinensis



Phal. violacea x Phal. amboinensis (Both violacea forms contribute to red flowers)



inflorescence is shorter. When you look at the breeding line these plants have species like *Phal violacea* and *Phal amboinensis* among others in their parentage. That is where they get the waxy flower and shorter inflorescence. That is also where some get their wonderful fragrance. New breeding is moving toward larger flowers with increased flower count, while retaining the bright colors and smells.

There are the multifloral Hybrids, the third group. These were actually developed in California by Herb Hager. He went down a different path with the same species that gave us the large flower species requiring warmth and humidity so these will grow nicely with the other groups discussed.

It is with the miniatures that we see a change in culture needed. These come from species like *Phalaenopsis lobbii* and *P. parishii*, which are mixed with other small flowering Phalaenopsis. Some of these species come from cool or dry habitats and because of that need lower temperatures and humidity than the other phals we have discussed. Some are even semi-deciduous. *Phal. Lobbii* is a true miniature that is a twig epiphyte usually found on mossy branches overhanging water. It does like high humidity, and loses its leaves during dry periods, leaving only green roots. This plant likes a dry winter rest. *Phal. Mini Mark* has been the most successful hybrid from these species. It is quite floriferous and produces branching spikes. This multi floral is unusual in that its breeding accounts for less than one-tenth percent of all breeding for multiflorals. Almost all multifloral have *Phal. equestris* in their backgrounds (pictured at top of the page), except this one. *Phal. maculate* is one of the smallest and hardest to grow. But the primary hybrid of *Phal (maculate x parishii)* and the addition of *Philippines* has made a very nice plant.



Phalaenopsis lobbii and P. parishii

Phalaenopsis Mini Mark

I have to end this now, but I hope you can start to see beyond the large flowered Phals, and while the white ones are beautiful there is a lot more to Phalaenopsis (Phalaenopsi?) than just that. George Vasquez’ family has been very involved in some of this history of the sturdy flowering type. There are still areas to cover like what is a *Doritaenopsis* anyway? And why do the plants have names like ‘Brother’? Where can you get hold of some of these species? What is a semi-alba? You let me know if you want me to continue. **Until then.....see you at the picnic!**

Ribbon Judging Results April Meeting

Advanced Amateur – Judged by Polly Kinsinger and Chuck Spain

Cattleya

1 st	Jewel Box ‘Dark Water’	Bobby Ignacio
2 nd	Unknown	Don Goss
3 rd	Irene Holquin	Vallie McCray

Cymbidium

1 st	Cali Nights Geyserland	Ted Johnson
2 nd	Street Tango ‘Windy Kobe’	Don Goss
3 rd	Joann Managa ‘Tamiko’	Jasmine Bashi

Paphiopedilum

1 st	Lebaudy anum	Sorry! – Missed the name.
2 nd	Unknown	Susann Patton
3 rd	Newberry Sprite	Thamina Haque

Oncidium/Odontoglossum Alliance

1 st	Yulestreker Melissa Brianne ‘Shady Lady’	Don Goss
2 nd	Yulestreker Melissa Brianne ‘Shady Lady’	Sorry! – Missed the name.
3 rd	Oncidium puchellum	Susann Patton

Phaleanopsis

1 st	Phal. Salu Spot	Thamina Haque
2 nd	Dtps. Taida Sala	Ted Johnson
3 rd	Phal. Miki Watanabe	Susann Patton

Other

1 st	Masdevalia Copper Angel	Ted Johnson
2 nd	Leptoites bicolor	Ted Johnson
3 rd	Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom	Polly Kinsinger

Amateur – Judged by Polly Kinsinger

Paphiopedilum/Phragmipedium

1 st	Paph. Alma Gavaert ‘Hagers’ x Quicksilver ‘Ghostly’	Peggy Wormington
2 nd	Phrag. Pearcel ‘Cloud’ x St. Owen ‘Sweet Blush’	Peggy Wormington
3 rd	Phrag. Andean Fire ‘Michelle Lee’ x Sorcerers Apprentice	Peggy Wormington



Phaleanopsis

1 st	Unknown	Susan Amini
2 nd	Unknown	Sandy Hammersmark
3 rd	Phal. Butterfly x Phal. Hisinying	Susan Amini

Other

1 st	Miltonia Unknown	Peggy Wormington
2 nd	Dendrobium Unknown- Ultra New Grower	Maria Gutierrez
3 rd	Cymbidium Unknown-	Sandy Hammersmark



Great Job!!

People, Places and Things

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

Meets on the third Friday of each month
Culture Session at 7:00 p.m.
General Meeting at 8:00 p.m.
South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

Next Board Meeting—May 23, 2007

The Board Meeting in January will be held at the
Levy Center, Torrance Adult School
The meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

Welcome New Members

Please warmly welcome our newest members. Remember it is up to us, as a society to make all new members feel welcome.

Allen and Fran Ravine came to us through the spring show. They have been growing Cymms, Cattas and Paphs on their patio. These guys are going to give the rest of us some real competition, so look out all us beginners!

Phyllis and John Thielman came to us through the fall show. These folks are new to our area, so be sure to give them an extra welcome. They are both growers and are expanding into orchids, and they have come to the right place to learn.

More New Members

Josephine Balboa came to us through the spring show and is a friend of Bobby Ignacio. Currently she is growing cymms outdoors. A big thanks to Bobby for sharing the good news about SBOS.



Phal. Talin Lion 'Hsing'
AM/AOS



Phal. Kilby Cassviola 'Sweet
Fragrance' Love this!!!!



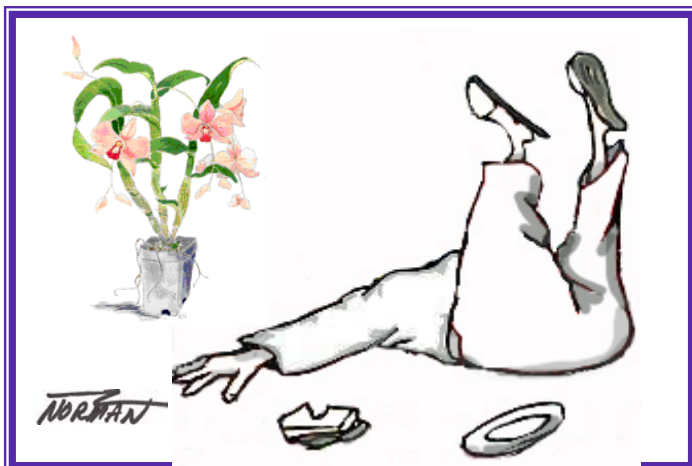
Dtps. 'Red Coral'



*Now these are some bright
colors-this is bright copper*

Phal. David Lim

*Photos from
Orchids.com Norman's Orchids*



**"TALK TO YOUR
PLANTS.....WHEN ITS
APPROPRIATE"**

The sunshine report

Marilyn Hill -Please take a few minutes to let Marilyn know we are sending her wishes for a fast recovery. She fell and will be re-cooperating from a broken bone. We will miss her at the picnic greatly.

Dr Bob Streeter Wasn't it great to see up on his feet again at the meeting. Welcome back Dr Bob. Gloria looks much happier as well.

Ann McNeeley is still recovering from her operation, and is still moving slowly. Please feel free to give her a call and let her know we are thinking of her.

**The Refrigerator Door
Orchid Show Calendar
May 07—June 07**

SBOS Committee Chairs:

Librarian:
Mary Glass.....310-320-8600

Raffle Tickets:
Ted and Betty Cornell.....310-327-2826

Refreshments:
Carolyn Gould.....310-546-2133
Shirley Marble.....310-379-0855

Ribbon Judging:
Polly Kinsinger.....310-374-6471
Marc Massari310-220-3507

Property Manager:
Ron Henry.....310-374-9699

Meeting Set-up:
David Okihara.....310-324-3211

AOS Liaison:
Bob Streeter.....310-541-6692

Southland Representative:
Marilyn Hill.....310-675-0604

Sunshine:
Kathy West.....310-643-8740

Web Site:
Don Goss.....310-316-3595
E-mail.....webmstr@1stinmedia.com

WE NEED HELP WITH OPEN POSTIONS:

Set up—Come in at 6:30 and help David set up the room for our meeting.

Break Down- Stay a few minutes to help put things away.

Introduction of Society to newest members- After the main talk, but prior to the opportunity table raffle, show our newest members how we function. I know a lot of you already are helping out, but lets spread the wealth a little more, it will be greatly appreciated by all.

Historian- Some body to take pictures at the meetings of our winners or their flowers.

May 19th 2007
SBOS Annual Spring Picnic
Zuma Canyon Orchids
BBQ and picnic under a canapé of trees
Homemade Salsa competition
Buy plants right out of George's greenhouses
Plant demonstration by George Vasquez
Everybody goes home with a plant
11AM to 2PM

405N toward Santa Monica
Exit 10W toward Santa Monica
Rt on Pacific Coast Hwy (19mi)
Rt on Bonsall Dr to Orchid Nursery

June 9th 2007
Orchid Society of Southern California
Auction
First Christian Church
221 S. 6th Street Burbank, CA
Contact: Krystine Chapawo
818-845-0492

June 16th 2007
SBOS 2007 INSTALLATION FUN
Ports 'O Call Restaurant

Again this year please join us at the Installation dinner in San Pedro. The cost this year is \$30 per person. Please let Ron know by June 13th if you are coming so he can give a head count to the restaurant.

Ports 'O Call Restaurant
At the Ports O'Call Village
77 Berth, #2a
San Pedro, CA 90731-4401
Ron Henry 310-374-9699

“The Inflorescence”

South Bay Orchid Society

c/o Ned Patton

21816 Barbara Street

Torrance, CA 90503



See y'all at the picnic May 19.

I do know how to use a barbeque.

Ned