



Blc. Chih Lin 'Pauchiten'  
Grown by Tom Renger  
Photographed by Tom Renger

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.  
"Orchids for Amateurs"  
Founded July, 1957  
*The*  
**INFLORESCENCE**

August 2008  
Website: [www.southbayorchidsociety.com](http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com)

**Thursday, August 21**  
South Coast Botanic Garden  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

**General Meeting Starting at 8 PM**

**Our Speaker this month is Paul Gripp, his topic is SUMMER BLOOMING BRAZILIANS.**

These Laleias and Cattleyas are hearty outdoor growing with amazing blooms— when cymbidium and our other orchids are not blooming we can enjoy the spectacular Brazilian summer blooming orchids.

Originally from Topanga Canyon, Paul Gripp is best known for his association with the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, where he began working in 1957. He later purchased the Estate in 1967, retired in 1986, and his children currently share ownership. Paul has remained active within the Estate and spends most of his time there.

Mr. Gripp and the SBOE are one of the world's foremost collectors and propagators of orchid species and hybrids, specializing in outdoor temperature tolerant varieties.

Paul has held many distinguished offices: President of the CSA, President of the Santa Barbara Orchid Show, Member, Research committee of the AOS (15 years).

Paul's favorite saying, "When you say you like all orchids equally, you can call yourself an orchid man." Alas, Paul's favorite orchid; "All orchids, equally."

This month's raffle table will be provided by Santa Barbara Orchid Estate. Don't miss out on the opportunity and buy lots of tickets, I know I will!

Susan Amini

**Culture Session** is at 7.00 p.m. Come early for an interesting demonstration by guest speaker Paul Gripp. He will provide TIPS and TRICKS on orchid culture.

**South Bay Orchid Society Board:**

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*tomrenger@roadrunner.com*

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Nick Braemer ..... 310-560-4384  
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## President's Message

Our cymbidium repotting workshop at the South Coast Botanic Garden proved to be an excellent attraction. Sixty non-society members, in addition to society members, attended the workshop with Don Goss being our master of ceremonies. He was attended by Eeva Renger, greeter; Marla Corey, David De Young, Nick Braemer and me as assistant practitioners. With adequate follow-up, we anticipate to reap a fine harvest of new members.

Sabrina Roque hosted this month our (July) board meeting. She and her husband provided us with unexpected pizza, wonder papaya drinks and ice coffee – all home made. Edith Robinson brought her signature pasta dish to complement the above.

Christine Hough has volunteered to become a member of our membership team of Edith Robinson and Eeva Renger. Olga Cutting has been doing a fine job but has decided that she wants to spend more time with her family. Thank you, Olga for your services.

Our board approved membership badges for our "Membership Teammates" to identify them as a source of membership information for guests and new members.

Don't be surprised if you are contacted and asked if you would be interested in assisting our board members as a backup. This provides you an opportunity to decide if you would be interested in becoming a future board member due to real time board meeting experiences. Do contact me if you would like to volunteer and be considered for any board position.

Your 2008 – 2009 annual dues of \$17 should be paid as soon as possible. Any member in good standing will be listed in our Membership Directory which will be distributed at our October meeting. October was chosen so that we can include new members from our Fall Show which is September 28 thru 29 this year at the South Coast Botanic Garden. Just think, it actually only cost you two dollars a year when you take advantage of our Christmas Gift orchid valued at \$15!

Do volunteer to help at the Fall Show; you might be surprised what you will gain. Until I volunteered many years ago, I did not know how much fun it is to share my orchid experience with strangers, and let's not forget the great food provided by some of our members.

Tom Renger



Blc. Apricot Flaire 'Sun Moon'  
Oak Hill Gardens  
Grown and photographed  
by Tom Renger

**Ribbon Judging Results  
July Meeting**

**Advanced Amateur - Judged by Mark Massari**

**Cattleya**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Bl. Richard Mueller x C. Landate	Polly Kinsinger
2 <sup>nd</sup>	L. Purpurata 'Sanguinea' x C. Fumilia	Bobby Ignacio

**Paphiopedilum**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Paph. Hirsutissimum	Polly Kinsinger
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paph. Knoch Hellas	Bobby Ignacio

**Oncidium**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Onc. Kaizumic Delight 'Dogashima'	Marla Corey
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Onc. Unknown	Polly Kinsinger

**Encyclia**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Enc. Cochleanthes	Polly Kinsinger
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Epicyclia Serena O'Neill	Polly Kinsinger

**Other**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Ascofinetia 'Twinkle'	Polly Kinsinger
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Den. wassellii	Marla Corey
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Den. Hsinyung Chrysopense	Polly Kinsinger

**Novice - Judged by Mark Massari**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Trichophilia tortillis	Ann Rogers
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oncidium Gower Ramsey 'Sunkiss'	Sharon Gage
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Brassavola Yaki	Ann Rogers

**Please try to bring in your plants for ribbon judging before 7:30 pm on the night of the meetings to guarantee that they will be included in the judging for that night. This gives us enough time to judge the plants before the lights need to be turned off for the general meeting. Thank you!**

**Polly Kinsinger  
Ribbon Judging Chairman**

## NEW THOUGHTS ON WATERING BARE ROOT PLANTS DURING THE HOT TIME OF THE YEAR By Nick Braemer

I have always held to the dictum: Water potted plants once a week, bare-root plants once a day unless conditions warrant otherwise. Just a few examples of varying from the standard routine: if the pots are unusually small or large, if the temp is unusually high or low, if there is a lot of morning fog (June gloom) or if the season (Winter, Santa Ana Winds, Yukon Express) commands otherwise. During extreme heat I would, in the past, try to water twice, morning and night.

This year I have had extra time on my hands, and spent a few more days at home every week scratching whatever needs scratching and wondering what to do with the rest of my time. When we had these unusual heat waves this year I altered my watering routines and watered more often. I also increased my scratching routine but I don't believe that affected the plants.

First of all, let me specify what I mean by watering. It relates to bare root plants only (none of this has any application to potted plants) which I WATER once or twice a week, meaning, I spray them to get the roots wet and then immediately afterward water them thoroughly with fertilizer water. That routine I did not alter. What I did alter is my habit of HOSING them down with unaltered water similar to hosing down a driveway, which I do at least once or twice daily. For the rest of this article I only refer to the later.

During the first unusual heat wave this spring I hosed them off three, four, and occasionally five times a day including once after sunset so they would stay wet longer. I remember hearing about Orchids of Los Osos, or the other Orchid Nursery up there, having a Vanda room with automated sprinklers which went on every 30 minutes for 5 seconds with a sprayer for every plant. This was supposed to have resulted in phenomenal growth. I never had it confirmed whether that story is true but it sounds plausible as long as there is enough heat to dry the roots between waterings. This year I tried to apply the same principle, water them, and water them again when the roots had been totally dry for a while. When the temp hits 98F, which it did in my backyard more than once this spring, this happens pretty fast.

Sometimes later this spring I noticed unusual thickness of new Cattleya growth and related this to the unusual watering (hosing down that is) frequency. I therefore continued numerous hosings daily even after the extreme heat passed. We had a couple of more heat waves with three to five hosings daily, but on a normal temperature day I now try to hose them off at least twice and often three times per day. This is obviously way too much water for plants in moss or plants with a very dense root ball which acts like bark by the sheer numbers of the roots, but I have not noticed damage so far in plants of that nature.

On many, but not all of the Cattleyas, the thickness of the new growth is remarkably greater than previous bulbs. I know how to differentiate from the normal maturing of plants and the associated increase in pbulb size, but am referring to plants which had established an unchanging growth pattern for the last few years and this year produced noticeably thicker pbulbs. I don't know if this relates to: 1) More frequent watering 2) Decidedly higher temperatures 3) More sunlight with less fog this spring (almost no 'June Gloom').

The biggest factor may well have been the absence of the usual 'June Gloom' this year. The same plants bloom and grow new shoots at the same time every year so the ones usually growing at this time of the year did so in glorious sunlight. That could well be the difference rather than my brilliant watering technique.

It is however possible that during periods of heat, one should water bare root plants much more often than I have thought necessary in the past. I would like to hear if others had a similar experience this year. "Ahnold" claims I gave them steroids but I categorically deny this and am willing to submit urine samples of the top performers. I also vehemently, with near 100% certainty, deny having a recollection of ever groping Orchids.

Nick



# Remove — Revitalize — Repot Workshop

by Don Goss

Photography by Eeva Renger



On July 26th we had our first "Hands-On Repotting Workshop" held at the South Coast Botanic Garden. We had expected 20 to 30 people. But as Gomer Pyle would say, **Surprise! Surprise! Surprise!** 70 showed up. 3/4 of the participants did not belong to any orchid society. One person said that this would be her first orchid ever. It was a great day of dispelling the notion that orchids are difficult. A typical refrain was "I can do this!"

We provided everything; plants, pots, bark, newspaper, gloves—the works. We started them off right. Before anyone touched an orchid the gloves went on. I spent the next two hours standing on a stool barking (a little orchid humor) information and instructions. At one point,



Nick Braemer told a story of his visit to a grower some years back. The man told Nick "Here's all you need to know about growing orchids, young fella. Water them once a week. Fertilize every two weeks at half strength. Give them as much light as you can, but keep them out of the sun. Repot every two years. 80% will love ya, the other 20% you don't want anyway." This story gets across that orchids don't deserve the reputation they have.

I was joined by Tom and Eeva Renger, Marla Corey, David De Young, and



Nick Braemer as we hosted a packed house that divided and repotted 70 orchids in 90 minutes. There were numerous other members that showed up to help out and learn. Participants didn't always get it right the first time and they had to dump it out and start over. Very quickly they got the idea of how to handle orchids, their roots (good and bad), packing bark, etc. It was a madhouse of fun. We sent them all home with at least three growths per pot and all back bulbs were cleaned.



The inspiration for this repotting workshop came from a conversation I had with Susann

Patton shortly before she passed away. Susann loved orchids, the Society, and teaching people how to successfully grow them. Susann and I conspired on having a hands-on workshop where people would be guided by experts from the Society. When you're new to orchids, it's one thing to watch a demonstration and it's something entirely different to repot one yourself and to do it correctly. Susann graciously donated her entire collection of cymbidiums for this workshop.

After it was all over and just three of us remained, Tom, Marla, and myself, we looked at each other and agreed that if Susann were looking down upon what just took place . . . she would be smiling. The success of this hands-on workshop was so grand that we've already scheduled our next one. Thank you Susann.

# People, Places and Things



## ***A Tribute to Clark Day***

It is with sorrow that we report the death of Clark Day. Clark was one of the first members of the So. Bay Orchid Society. He operated a commercial Orchid Nursery located in Cerritos. After selling the nursery Clark continued his passion of growing and hybridizing Paphs in an area under his house. He would glow as he showed what could be done under artificial light and growing conditions.

Clark was president of the So. Bay Orchid society in 1986 and a board member for several years after. He worked every show for the entire weekend, never having to be asked. I knew he would be there to assist with judging. After judging he would help wherever needed.

Grace, his lovely wife, helped a great deal at our shows. She headed the judging of floral arrangements and would always bring her favorite dish for the kitchen.

For health reasons, Clark and Grace moved to Texas where they could be near their daughter.

We have missed them both very much since they moved. A donation to AOS has been made in his honor.

Our sincere sympathy to Grace and the family from the entire society.  
Bob Streeter

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## **OBITUARY**

Bill Bailey, an esteemed member of our society, has died due to injuries he received after a fall at his home. Obituary to follow in next month's newsletter.

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## **South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.**

This month we meet on **THURSDAY**  
Culture Session at 7:00 p.m.  
General Meeting at 8:00 p.m.  
South Coast Botanic Garden



Please give a warm welcome to new Members Timothy Ransfer & Alice Hawkins

Tim and Alice joined during our recent repotting event. Say, "hello" when you see them at the next meeting.

## **President's Choice — Personality of the Month**

Don Goss is my choice for the personality of the month. He has a wealth of website technical knowledge and experience and he applies it to our society's needs. Don's energy in supporting our society is unbelievable and his magnetic personality makes you want to meet him and talk about orchids.

**New members  
Please go to the membership desk  
at each meeting.**



**The Refrigerator Door  
Orchid Calendar  
August 2008**

**SBOS Committee Chairs:**

Librarian:  
Kayo Libiano ..... 310-897-8085  
*lilkyky@mac.com*

Raffle Tickets:  
Burt Dobratz ..... 310-375-2693

Refreshments:  
June Brooks ..... 310-549-4266  
Joann Green ..... 310-830-1585

Ribbon Judging:  
Polly Kinsinger ..... 310-374-6471

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  
*orchids@southbayorchidsociety.com*

**TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITY**

Members whose last name start with a "C", are requested to help setup and store chairs and tables for August's meeting. Please be there on or before 6:30 PM. After set-up, do enjoy our cultural session.

**\*This month's meeting is changed to  
THURSDAY August 21\*  
Next Board Meeting will be  
August 26th, 2008**

If you are interested in attending the board meeting please contact Peggy Wormington for location

**DO YOU LIKE OUR NEWSLETTER?  
TO ENSURE UNINTERRUPTED  
SUBSCRIPTION,  
SUBMIT YOUR  
RENEWAL APPLICATION  
WITH ANNUAL DUES NOW!**

**South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation Events**

- August 16 & 17 Dahlia Show Sat noon-4 p.m.  
Sun 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- August 17 Begonia Show and Sale 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Please support our host, the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation at any of these educational and fun filled events.

**DEPUTY BOARD MEMBER  
OPPORTUNITIES**

Each member on our Board of Directors is seeking an understudy for the position that she or he holds. This position will provide experience as a standby for each board member. The name of each position is listed on the front of our newsletter. The deputy may be requested to attend the Board of Directors meeting when the primary officer is not available. Estimated time required per month is three hours, or less. Get involved for potential growth in your future. Contact each board member directly or Tom Renger, President, for a new, uncomplicated and exciting opportunity.

***“The Inflorescence”***

South Bay Orchid Society  
c/o Sabrina Roque  
916 Silver Spur Rd., Ste. 201  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274



Pot. Hawaiian Prominence  
Grown and photographed by Tom Renger

**This month's  
meeting is  
THURSDAY  
August 21  
at  
South Coast  
Botanic  
Garden**