



South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

“Orchids for Amateurs”

Founded July, 1957

The
INFLORESCENCE

December 2008

www.southbayorchidsociety.com

HOW I FOUND “ORCHIDS” AND LEARNED TO LOVE THEM

By Arthur Hazboun*

In December 1995 a very good friend gave me a little plant with tiny red and yellow flowers on it. She said she grew it herself, and she indicated it would bloom periodically throughout the year. She told me the name of it was Epidendrum and it was an Orchid. At that time I didn't know what Orchids were. I visited her collection and WOW I was amazed, I did not really know how beautiful, gorgeous, and fragrant these plants are. The variety alone astounded me. A couple of years later I was at an Armstrong Garden Center, and they had quite an assortment of them. Later that year I was at Yamada Garden Supply in Gardena and there was a leaflet about an upcoming Orchid show in Gardena for the Gardena Cymbidium Club. So I went and I was “hooked”. Someone there told me about the upcoming show at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center for the South Bay Orchid Society, which I attended for the first time and the rest is history.

I have been attending the various shows, both spring and fall, and started collecting, buying and trading plants. Every time I'm in a garden center I make it a habit to stop and admire all the various Orchids that are on display for sale. I am especially fond of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, and their crosses, hybrids and varieties. Oh! and Epidendrums are still on my favorite lists; I have (red of course), purple, yellow, gold, white, cream, orange and am always looking for other colors.

***Arthur Hazboun is our new webmaster and in charge of updating, maintenance, and upkeep of the southbayorchidsociety dot com website. Among his other duties is the emailing of the monthly Inflorescence newsletter to all our orchid society email subscribers. The new email address for our webmaster is: [specialorchids at southbayorchidsociety dot com](mailto:specialorchids@southbayorchidsociety.com)**

In September 2007 I entered my first orchid at the South Bay Orchid Society Fall Show. It was Blc. Eagle Eyes All Victory and it won a first place blue ribbon in its class. In September 2008 I entered another orchid and it also won first place. At that show Dr. Bob Streeter came up to me and said: “Why don't you join our society”, and I said: “OK”, went over to the membership table and signed up with Eeva Renger and Edith Robinson. So here I am and it's one of the best things I have ever done to learn about Orchids and meet a very nice group of knowledgeable and friendly bunch of Orchid enthusiasts. I urge everyone who is not a member to join the society and gain the benefits of being a member of the South Bay Orchid Society.

If you're wondering about the little Epidendrum plant, it's in a 10" clay pot and over 7 feet tall. It's still growing nicely along a mature plum tree, and is always producing new flowers and “keikis” - literally hundreds of these new plants - which I have potted up and given away over the years. My friend is now residing in San Diego County and has a greenhouse and a “lab” and is growing mainly Masdevallia, Phaleanopsis, and Paphiopedilum species. She will co-chair the San Diego County Orchid Society Spring Show in March 2009. A special thank you goes to my friend Betty Kelepecz for turning me on to and teaching me to love orchids, or as she calls them, “chids”.

I would like to thank Don Goss for his invaluable help in teaching me the tricks of the trade in getting the website revised, updated and current. Also thanks go to Tom and Eeva Renger, and to Sabrina Roque, Marla Corey, Susan Amini and Dr. Bob Streeter for their help and assistance in making me welcome and a valued member of the society.

My best Holiday Wishes to each and everyone and all their families and to a healthy, and a prosperous 2009. Happy Orchid growing.

Arthur

President's Message



It's that time of the year... to getting to know each other better and enjoying each others company. We will have a wonderful Christmas meal consisting of turkey and ham, prepared by Marla Corey and Peggy Wormington, and of course all specially prepared dishes that you will be bringing to the party. Surprise events are scheduled for the evening.

Each membership will receive a beautiful orchid plant. Our society purchased them from an excellent source in Hawaii, and many of last year's plants from this source bloomed within the first year. Be sure to mark December 19th, the third Friday, as the date for a fantastic South Bay Orchid Society dinner and Holiday celebration.

You are permitted to bring your own favorite adult beverage to share with your friends during dinner. Sharing personal orchid experiences and clean jokes make for an evening that you will enjoy and remember.

We plan on starting 2009 with a plant table that everyone will be salivating over. The January's speaker and his subject will be announced in the January 2009 newsletter.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays,

Tom Renger

South Bay Orchid Society Board

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Tom Renger 310-316-0707
TOMRENGER AT ROADRUNNER DOT COM

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Susan Amini 310-541-6363
SUSAN_AMINI AT YAHOO DOT COM

2nd Vice President:

Peggie Wormington..... 310-548-4344
DIGADIRT AT GMAIL DOT COM

Treasurer:

Christine Hough..... 310-316-4817
CHOUGH.SBOS AT GMAIL DOT COM

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Saul Miller.....310-558-1545
SDWMMILLER AT ATT DOT NET

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ORCHIDNICK AT YAHOO DOT COM

Don Goss 310-316-3595
ORCHIDS AT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT COM

Bob Streeter 310-541-6692
RJS.GES AT GTE DOT NET

Marla Corey, Past Pres. 310-833-1918
MARLACOREY AT SBCGLOBAL DOT NET

Ribbon Judging Results November Meeting

Advanced Amateur

1st BLC Roslyn Paisman “Diara” Ted Johnson

Amateur

1st Zygo. Red Vale “Fire Kiss” Ted Johnson
2nd Phal. Little Emperor Ted Johnson
3rd BLC 123 “Mission Valley” Ted Johnson

Novice

1st Hsingying Excell Lorena Cruz
2nd Lc. Drumbeat “Triumph” Bobbie Davidson
3rd Pot. Little Toshif “H & R” Peggy Wormington

Bob Streeter Judge

We encourage all the members to bring in their blooming plants in January. Bringing in plants qualifies you for winning a subscription to the Orchid Digest. In addition, for each plant you bring, you will receive a free raffle ticket for our great January plant table. **Editor.**



Blc. Young Kong ‘Sun#16’
Grown and photographed by Tom Renger

How I Discovered Orchids and the South Bay Orchid Society by Sabrina Roque

In 1991 I worked at a local Torrance real estate office as a sales agent. One of my coworkers invited me one day to ride with him to either JAROCA Orchids or a similarly named grower. There, I discovered Phalaenopsis! Their aerial roots fascinated me to no end. I fell in love with the root system. The roots of other plants are usually fragile and hidden in the dirt, the orchid root is fascinating because we see what is normally hidden.

I purchased my first orchids, phals and jewel orchids. My early acquisitions did not have the good fortune of Arthur's Epidendrum (see page 1). May they rest in peace. Since then, I consistently performed the practice of "purchase and then bury or trash" my plants. In fact, a friend once gifted me approximately fourteen plants, and as hard as I tried, the last one lasted no more than two years and perished during a heat wave. I do not have a green thumb. However; in my defense, as they say, "orchids are delicate fuzzy little plants that require attention to no end". Well, at least I often consoled myself with that excuse and never gave up purchasing my favorite house plant.

Some years ago a friend invited me to the Orchid Show at the South Coast Botanic Garden. There I joined the South Bay Orchid Society. I now have a small greenhouse and agree with Nick Braemer when he states: "Orchids are resilient". My plants now survive frost, over watering, under watering, and failure to fastidiously feed them. This season many of my mistreated orchids are in bloom, Cattleyas, Vandas, and a Cymbidiums. My collection houses a small Linguiforma I can proudly say is many years old. At the Society meetings I learned how not to let them dry out or rot, now I am learning to know their different needs and care for them.

My two daughters attend the meetings with me. Although, they are very young, they share my love of plants. It gives me great pride that even my four-year old son knows that he claimed a small catt named Chocolate Drop when I came home from a meeting one Friday night. He went around for months, jumping up and down, telling one and all the plant belonged to him. When it flowered he brought it inside proclaiming ownership. When I browsed through the newsletter he identified the picture of its flower and correctly named it. Orchids now provide additional joy connected with watching my children learn and grow.

Membership in the Society gave me the opportunity to learn, acquire many new plants at discounted prices, or participate during the monthly raffles, and more importantly, meet wonderful people with a wholesome hobby. In than vein, thank you Don Goss for all the support you gave me when I took over the newsletter. Tom and Eeva – ditto for your input every month to the newsletter. Jane Slane and Edith Robinson – thank you for being a friend. Thanks to all the other members who display kindness and encouragement throughout the year to my girls and myself. When one first joins an organization, a friendly face in a sea of strangers is important. For this reason I encourage everyone to continue this legacy of hospitality and welcome new members.

Orchid care for me is trial and error. However, with the Society's help not only do my plants survive but they also reward the little care I provide with beautiful flowers— **and great roots!!!** After 17 years I remain in awe of the orchid root system.

Tell us your story
Tell us your story

We'd love to hear from the members in a series of articles on "How I Found Orchids and Learned to Love Them." Tell us how you discovered orchids or how you came to the South Bay Orchid Society and details about your experience as a member. Please send your stories via email to

SABRINAORCHIDSOCIETY AT VERIZON DOT NET

Holiday Potluck

Holiday Potluck



There is still time to sign-up! Call Peggy today and bring something yummy to share.

Mark Your Calendars! Come on December 19 to the South Coast Botanic Garden for our annual holiday dinner. Count on a delicious selection of home made dishes from the kitchens of the talented Orchid Society cooks.

Your Board will provide turkey and ham - you provide a dish for 6 (think about how much you will eat...) Each member family will take home a beautiful orchid plant. Let the holiday spirit reign!

Any questions? Call or email me: 310-548-4344 or PEGGIE AT WORMINGTON DOT COM

Silent Auction

There will be no Silent Auction in December.
Instead, receive one free orchid plant
per membership
during our Potluck Dinner.



**San Diego County
Cymbidium Society**



Annual Orchid Auction
Saturday, January 31, 2009

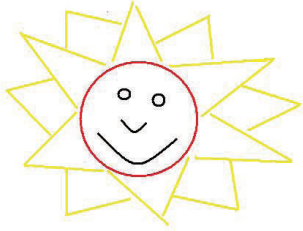
All Types of Orchids!
Preview at 11 a.m. Auction at 12 noon

Woman's Club of Carlsbad
3320 Monroe Street
Carlsbad, CA 92008

East from the 5 on Carlsbad Village Dr. ¼ mile to Monroe. Turn right (south) on Monroe. Woman's Club will be on left. Parking in rear.
Auction Chairperson: orchldy2@mac.com or 760-732-0055

Meetings monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at the Woman's Club.
Culture class 6:30 p.m. - General meeting 7:00 p.m.

People, Places and Things



Membership Directories are still available. To get your copy, please stop by Eeva Renger or Edith Robinson during our dinner.

Orchid Trader



Orchid Trader is closed in December

Tom Renger: It is easy and fun to trade. Come see my Cattleyas and decide which divisions you would like. Virus testing is available.

TOMRENGER AT ROADRUNNER DOT COM 310-316-0707

Nick Braemer: Bring your trade to the meetings, or choose from (1) Stanhopea grandiflora, 2 leafless back bulbs plus 3 front end bulbs with leaves. (2) Miltonia clowessii x Milt. Golden Showers, 2 leafless back bulbs and 3 front end bulbs with leaves, one spike. I won Best Oncidium of Show at the New Otani with this plant a number of years ago.

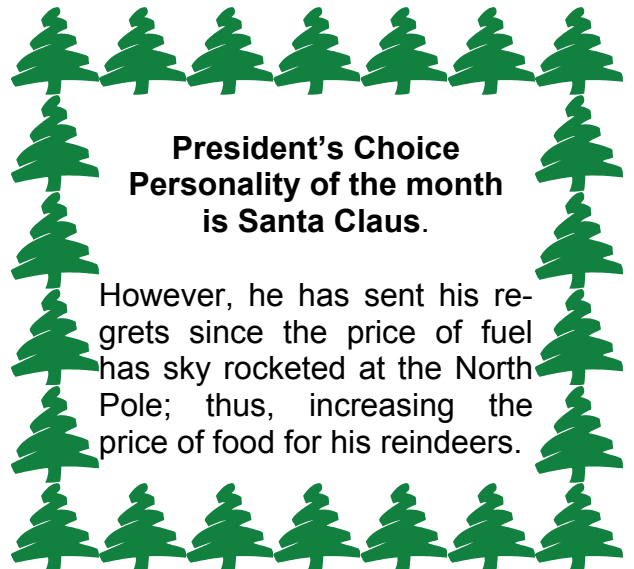
Nick brings plants to the meetings and is open to trade these plants. Stop by and chat with Nick at January 's meeting.

ORCHIDNICK AT YAHOO DOT COM 310-560-4384.



HELP PLEASE!

Can you spare 30-60 minutes helping to set up tables and chairs for our Holiday party on December 19? Come at 3 PM to help our hard working board members. Your help will be truly appreciated.



President's Choice Personality of the month is Santa Claus.

However, he has sent his regrets since the price of fuel has sky rocketed at the North Pole; thus, increasing the price of food for his reindeers.

**The Refrigerator Door
Orchid Calendar
December 2008**



SBOS Committee Chairs:

Librarian:

Kayo Libiano310-897-8085

Raffle Tickets:

Burt Dobratz.....310-375-2693

Refreshments:

June Brooks.....310-549-4266

Joann Green310-830-1585

Ribbon Judging:

Polly Kinsinger310-374-6471

Property Manager:

Ron Henry310-374-9699

Meeting Set-up:

David Okihara.....310-324-3211

AOS Liaison:

Bob Streeter310-541-6692

Southland Representative:

Marilyn Hill310-675-0604

Sunshine:

Kathy West.....310-643-8740

Publicity:

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

*ORCHIDS AT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT
COM*

**Our Potluck is FRIDAY December 19 at 7 PM
and it replaces this month's general meeting.**

Next general meeting will be January 16, 2009

Next Board Meeting will be January 20, 2009

All meetings will take place at the SCBG

December Celebrations	
Dec. 7	National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Dec. 9	Eid
Dec. 21	First Day of Winter
Dec. 21-29	Hanukkah
Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Dec. 26	Kwanzaa begins
Dec. 31	New Years Eve
January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation
Events in December 2008**

- 14 of December (Sunday), 2 PM – 4 PM
PV Symphonic Band Holiday Concert

Please support our host, the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation of this fun filled event.

southcoastbotanicgarden.org/3montheventcalendar.html

“The Inflorescence”

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



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**Happy
Holidays!**

**Our Holiday
Potluck is**

***Friday,
December 19
at 7 PM***