



Dracula gorgonella
 Courtesy of
[Gary Meyer](#)

The INFLORESCENCE

"Orchids for Amateurs"

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.
 P.O. BOX 3793
 Torrance, CA 90510-3793
www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com

Founded in July 1957

May 2010

**Our May 28, 2010
 Guest Speaker is
 Gary Meyer
 "Dracuphilia: A Gothic Romance"**

Gary Meyer's interest in orchids began when he was a freshman in high school in Michigan. He had already replaced much of his dad's beloved lawn with hundreds of perennials and North American native plants, partly in an attempt (futile, unfortunately) to attract hummingbirds. Among this plant collection were several *Cypripedium* species, which ignited his curiosity about orchids from other parts of the globe. He found a photograph of *Masdevallia vietchiana* in a library book that rendered him helpless to resist the pull to Pleurothallids. Shortly thereafter, he laid eyes on a line drawing of *Dracula chimaera* in a J & L Orchids catalog, and has been enslaved by Draculas ever since.

Gary started growing Draculas in his parents' basement in 1990, with some degree of success. However, college, then medical school, and finally graduate school became unavoidable distractions for him. By the time he finished his Ph.D. in neuroscience, he thought he had managed to completely kick the orchid addiction.

In February, 2003, Gary moved to San Francisco, and within two weeks of his arrival, found himself face to face with pure yellow *Dracula gorgona xanthina* (owned by John Leathers) at the Pacific Orchid Exposition. The addiction was immediately revived, stronger than ever. Six years later, Gary now has two overcrowded greenhouses in his backyard in San Francisco and several hun-

dred Dracula plants (along with a reasonable dose *Masdevallias*, *Lepanthes*, and *Anguloas*).

In 2005, Gary attended the first Scientific Conference on Andean Orchids, held at Ecuagenera's facilities in Gualaceo, Ecuador. There, he met Ken Cameron, Ph.D., then the director of the molecular taxonomy program at the New York Botanical Garden. Given Gary's access to most of the *Dracula* species and variations currently in cultivation and his laboratory science background, Ken suggested they together take on the task of investigating the taxonomy of *Dracula* through molecular technologies. Gary spent the summer of 2006, and occasional weeks thereafter, in Ken's lab at the New York Botanical Garden and his new facility at the University of Wisconsin, isolating and studying the DNA of more than 200 *Dracula* specimens. The initial results from this work were presented at the Second Scientific Conference on Andean Orchids in 2007, held in Loja, Ecuador.

Gary has been travelling to Colombia and Ecuador once or twice a year since 2005 to observe Draculas in the wild and visit collections of South American *Dracula* growers. His talk will cover a variety of topics, including the current state of Draculas in nature, cultural cues from the environment, and new insights from his laboratory research.

The topic of this month's talk is: *Dracuphilia: A Gothic Romance*.

Orchid Care Session 7 pm

This month's culture session will be presented by Gary Meyer. This session will focus on the culture and care of Draculas and *Masdevallias*. This month's raffle table will also be provided by Gary Meyer.

Susan Amíni

President's Message

SBOS Elections May 28, 2010

Remember, our meeting is the fourth Friday of this month, instead of the regular third Friday.

Attending our May meeting is important since it is our annual election day. Elections are necessary and vital for the future of the South Bay Orchid Society. Even if you are not interested in elections, please attend.

See Arthur Hazboun's, our election nomination appointee, article identifying volunteers for the various officers positions. Additional nominations from the floor will be recognized.

Kayo Libiano's article describes the facilities and food for our Installation Banquet on June 18. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

Let us meet on Friday, the 28th of May, our last 2009-2010 regular membership meeting.

Tom Renger

The above Cattleya labiata 'Rochellenis' (Brazil) illustration artist was Charles Storer (1817-1907) for the book The Country Life of Orchids by P. Francis Hunt and Mary Grierson; U.K. 1978.



Remember to vote!

The elections for the 53rd year of the South Bay Orchid Society Board Officers will be held during our monthly meeting on May 28th, 2010. Nominations from the floor for any board position will be encouraged. Each dues paying member must be physically present at the May meet-

ing in order to exercise their privilege of voting for the officers of the Society (one vote per membership). All positions that have only one nominee will be elected as a slate of officers to save time. Our President Tom Renger will have served his second term and will automatically become a Director as per the Society's by-laws. Eeva Renger has requested to be relieved as Membership Chairperson and that position has a new nominee. Eeva will continue to serve as our Newsletter Editor. Arthur Hazboun, our Webmaster, has volunteered to run for President. All other board members are volunteering to serve for another year in the same capacity.

See page 4 for more information.

Nominating Committee

South Bay Orchid Society Board

President: Tom Renger310-316-0707
TOMSBOS AT VERIZON DOT NET

1st Vice President: Susan Amini.....310-541-6363
SUSAN_AMINI AT YAHOO DOT COM

2nd Vice President: Kayo Libiano..... 310-897-8085
LILKYKY AT MAC DOT COM

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

Secretary: Saul Miller..... 310-558-1545
CCORCHID AT ATT DOT NET

Membership: Eeva Renger 310-316-0707
EEVASBOS AT VERIZON DOT NET

Newsletter Editor: Eeva Renger..... 310-316-0707
EEVASBOS AT VERIZON DOT NET

Show Chair: Marla Corey 310-833-1918
MARLACOREY AT SBCGLOBAL DOT NET

Webmaster: Arthur Hazboun
SPECIALORCHIDS AT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT COM

Directors:

Nick Braemer..... 310-560-4384
ORCHIDNICK AT YAHOO DOT COM

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

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

SBOS Committee Chairs

Librarian: Kayo Libiano.....310-897-8085

Raffle Tickets: Burt Dobratz310-375-2693

Refreshments: June Brooks310-549-4266
 Joann Green310-830-1585

Ribbon Judging: Saul Miller310-558-1545

Property Manager: Ron Henry310-374-9699

Meeting Set-up: David Okihara310-324-3211

AOS Liaison: Robert Streeter310-541-6692

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

Sunshine: Kathy West310-643-8740

Publicity: Don Goss.....310-316-3595
ORCHIDS AT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT COM

Dtps. Leopard Prince
 Courtesy of Orchid Society of Minnesota
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aeranthos/4453267064/>

Installation Banquet June 18, 2010

Our annual Installation Dinner for 2010 will be held on June 18th at 7:00PM at the Ports O' Call restaurant in San Pedro. Since our society pays part of the expense for the celebration, your cost per person is only \$25.00 for a nice sit-down chicken dinner, including coffee and dessert, in the Breakwater room. Non-host bar, as always, for adult beverages.

Please sign up at the May meeting if you would like to attend. If you have any questions or will not make the May meeting to sign up, please e-mail me at lilkyky@mac.com or call 310-374-7353.

Kayo Libiano



2010-2011 Board of Directors Nominees

The following people are nominated by the Board of Directors Nominating Committee for the South Bay Orchid Society board positions. Basic selection considerations:

1. Either previous performance or a demonstrated aptitude to execute the responsibilities.
2. Character to complement the board and work well with existing board members.
3. Computer literacy as the board frequently communicates and/or conducts business via email and the web with the use of various software programs.

The following information supplements SBOS By-laws.

The Board of Directors consists of 12 positions of which at least 9 must be filled in order to conduct business. We will be voting on 7 positions. Directors are voted for two-year terms, and the Past President is automatically selected as a new Director. Three positions on the board are appointed by the President and approved by the board for a one-year term. These are: Newsletter Editor, Show Chair, and Webmaster. Following are the positions which we will be voting on for our next fiscal year during our May 28th general meeting:

President – Arthur Hazboun

Arthur joined our society in 2008 and has since been our dedicated and reliable Webmaster. He is also responsible for emailing the monthly Inflorescence Newsletter to our members. Arthur maintains our database of the attendees at our shows and sends out hundreds of emails to our non-member email list announcing our annual

shows and special events. Arthur has been an asset to the society, he has volunteered for other duties when called upon by the board at various times including the raffles at our shows. Arthur's career as a former Laboratory Manager and currently as a Property Manager adds to his ability to conduct the management of the affairs of the Society and we will benefit greatly if Arthur is elected as our new President.

1st Vice President – Susan Amini

The 1st Vice President arranges for our general meeting speakers, the plant table (often provided by the speaker), and the culture session speaker. Susan has made everyone extremely happy with her excellent selection of guest speakers and plant table for the past two years. Susan belongs to four orchid societies and this gives her an advantage in this area. As this position is considered the first voice of our Society within affiliate societies, Susan continues to be an excellent ambassador for the South Bay Orchid Society.

2nd Vice President – Kayo Libiano

The 2nd Vice President is responsible for our annual social functions which include the Installation Banquet, Holiday Party, Santa Barbara Bus Trip, and other special events. Kayo has served as our second vice-president for one year. She has done a terrific job at all our special functions including setting up displays at other society shows. By profession, she works in architectural design. She is well-suited to the task as she is experienced in managing fine details. Kayo also continues to serve as our Librarian for SBOS and has revamped the entire cataloguing of all our books.

... see elections on p.6

Ribbon Judging Results April 2010 Judged by Robert and Gloria Streeter

Amateur

Cattleya	1 Skinneri alba 'Cherokee'	Nang Myint
Cymbidium	1 Fifi 'Harry' self x Coraki 'Maok'	Lorena Cruz
Cymbidium	2 Phar Lap 'Yoshikage ' x self	Lorena Cruz
Cymbidium	3. Rising Sun Geyserland x Musita Dream Geyserland	Sandy and Don Hammersmark
Other	1. Dend. Dream 'Ace'	Nang Myint
Other	2. Vanda Yuuko Iso-Sumida 'Ted Sumida'	Nang Myint
Other	3. Oncidium, unknown	Marilyn Camisa

Advanced Amateur

Cattleya	1 SLC Jewel Box 'Dark Waters'	Bobby Ignacio
Cattleya	2 Chocolate Drop hybrid	Don Goss
Cattleya	3 LC Hauserman Essence	Ted Johnson
Paph./Phrag.	1 Lebaudymanum	Don Goss
Paph./Phrag.	2 Phrag. Caudatum	David Streeter
Paph./Phrag.	3. Hsinying Raisin 'C,H. #6 x acmodontum 'Hsinying'	Don Goss
Other	1 Dgmra Winter Wonderland 'White Fairy'	Bobby Ignacio
Other	2 Catasetum Americas discolor	Bobby Ignacio
Other	3 Dtps. Leopard Prince	Don Goss



SLC Jewel Box 'Dark Waters'
Courtesy of Jmoney

<http://www.rv-orchidworks.com/orchidtalk/cattleyas-vandas-dendrobiums-bloom/10027-slc-jewel-box-dark-waters.html>

Treasurer – Christine Hough

Christine has been our very capable treasurer for the past two years and has provided us with timely, excellent, accurate spreadsheets and detailed monthly financial reports. Christine is very thorough in financial and banking matters and her expertise as an actuary lends itself to the Treasurer’s job. She also prepares and files all governmental and taxation requirements.

Secretary – Saul Miller

Saul is our current Secretary and has done an outstanding job of recording the Society’s business during our monthly board meetings. His board minutes results are always clear, concise, and punctual. He is also currently our ribbon judging chair at our general monthly meetings and was our featured speaker at last year’s installation banquet. Saul’s “Orchids-R-Easy” lectures at our shows are thorough and detailed.

Membership Chair – Charlotte Morrison

Charlotte has been a member for three years and has volunteered at SBOS Fall and Spring Shows. By profession she is in human resources and has worked in information technology. Along with her detailed nature, she is very qualified for this position.

Director – Don Goss

Don was formerly our Webmaster. He was instrumental in building, creating, and maintaining our modern website for over five years. He is also our publicity chair for advertising our annual shows and events. Don is the person responsible for those outstanding colorful posters and flyers and advertisements in the print media. His “Orchids-R-Easy” lectures are as colorful as his superb photographic ability that enhances this position immensely.

Nominating Committee

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 ☆ After 28 years of faithful service, ☆
 ☆ Norma Cantafio, ☆
 ☆ Executive Director of South Coast ☆
 ☆ Botanic Garden Foundation ☆
 ☆ has left the Garden. ☆
 ☆ We will miss her never-ending ☆
 ☆ wisdom, bountiful helpfulness, ☆
 ☆ and optimistic outlook. ☆
 ☆ Norma, we wish you well! ☆
 ☆ ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆



Sobralia macrantha (Central America); Artist: James Bateman (1811-1897) for *The Country Life of Orchids* by P. Francis Hunt and Mary Grierson; U.K. 1978

MS Access Programmer

SBOS is using MS Access for our membership records. The person who originally developed our database has left our Society and we are in need of revamping our program.

If you can help, or know anybody else who is qualified, please contact Eeva Renger at [EevaSBOS at verizon.net](mailto:EevaSBOS@verizon.net) or call 310.316.0707.

Orchid Calendar

Our future membership meetings are

- ◆ **May 28, (4th Friday) General Elections**
- ◆ **June 18, (3rd Friday) Installation Banquet (Ports O' Call Restaurant)**
- ◆ **July 16, (3rd Friday)**

- ◆ **Culture sessions start 7 pm**
- ◆ **General meetings start 8 pm at South Coast Botanic Garden**

Next board meeting will be

- ◆ **June 1, 2010**
Call 310-316-0707 for more info

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation Upcoming Events 2010

- ◆ May 23, Bonsai Show, 9am-4pm
- ◆ June 5-6, Rose Show, Sat 1pm-4pm, Sun 10am-3pm
- ◆ June 12, Fuchsia Show and Sale, 10am-4pm
- ◆ June 13, Ferrari Car Show, 9am-3pm

Please support our host, the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation for any of these educational and fun filled events. For more information log-on to: [SCBG](#)



Jack Manchester, AKA "Dr. Potzalot", passed away Sunday morning, May 16, 2010.

Up until his health curtailed his activities, he was an active and dedicated hands-on working member. Jack served two terms as president, once in 1985 and again in 1994. He served on the Board of Directors, Treasurer, was in charge of the sales booth at our spring shows, audited the society books on occasion, presented many culture sessions and was always available for one-on-one help and advise. Jack received his first orchid as a gift from his parents, a Paphiopedilum (his first and enduring love). Along with Nancy, his wife of 44 years, they were bitten with "Orchid Fever" upon attending one of our spring shows and went home with a carload of Phalaenopsis. Their collection grew by leaps and bounds, as did his growing skills. Jack was a master grower, his plants always commanded attention, not only from the members but by the judges as well.

Jack will truly be missed.

Dave DeYoung

“The Inflorescence”
South Bay Orchid Society
c/o Eeva Renger
438 Avenue E
Redondo Beach, CA 90277-5141

NEXT MEETING DATE IS May 28; 4th FRIDAY

Upcoming Events

Eighth Orchid Digest Speakers Day

June 12, 2010
Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA
Orchid sales/lectures/dinner
Simone Friend, 562-431-1247
[Orchidsimone at aol.com](http://Orchidsimone@aol.com)

Orchid Society of So CA Annual Plant Auction

June 19, 2010
221 S. 6th St, Burbank, CA
Orchid Society of Southern California Auction

Santa Barbara International Orchid Fair

July 9-11, 2010
Earl Warren Fairgrounds, Santa Barbara, CA
Free Admission
Santa Barbara International Orchid Fair

South Bay Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale

September 18-19, 2010
South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274
SBOS Show Info

Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale

September 25, 2010
South Coast Village, Santa Ana, CA
Fascination of Orchids