



Masdevallia
Mary Staal
'Alpine'
Courtesy of
www.peninsula-hybrids.com

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

July 2010

Our July 16, 2010
Guest Speaker is
Gerardus B. Staal, Ph.D.
"Masdevallias"

Gerardus is a Dutch native with Masters of Science in Tropical Agriculture and Doctorate in Insect Physiology. He worked as a Research Entomologist for Bay Area companies developing novel selective pesticides based on the insect hormonal system, as well as several more traditional insecticides. ENSTAR and MAVRIK were developed for greenhouse use and other compounds for the control of household and animal pests. He retired from Entomology in 1990.

His orchid interests started in 1974 and developed into orchid hybridizing and propagating efforts that continue today under the PENINSULA HYBRIDS label website www.peninsulahybrids.com. The emphasis is on the creation of hybrids of cool and intermediate growing species and the propagation of rare species. Many new hybrids in the Cattleya, Pleurothallid, and Odontoglossum Alliances were registered in his name. More recently, the emphasis has shifted to hybrids and species in the Bulbophyllum, Dendrobium, and Huntleya breeding Alliances.

Another effort has been the development of an alternative to cork slabs that eliminates most of the

drawbacks; these are coco poles, suitable for all small species and hybrids.

His hybridizing efforts have been rewarded with many AOS awards, among which three Awards of Quality (all in Masdevallias) and several Awards of Distinction. In addition to numerous Certificates of Botanical Recognition, awards were obtained for species newly introduced to the judging system. New trigenic hybrid genera with his name are: Staalara (originally with the hybrid name Staalara Gerardus, AD/AOS) and Gerardusara (Miltonia x Oncidium x Baptistonia). To date, more than 70 hybrids have been registered of which he has been the originator.

He participated in several trips to Ecuador. One species found in the country was named Masdevallia (now Spilotantha) Staaliana, in his honor.

Gerardus has served in various capacities in four local orchid societies and has served five presidential years in three of these. He also served as the president of the Pleurothallid Alliance and has been a member of the AOS Research Committee.

Susan Améni

Orchid Care Session 7 pm

'Care and Culture of Masdevallias' will be presented by Gerardus B. Staal.

This month's raffle table will be provided by Peninsula Hybrids. Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets, these plants are hand-picked by Dr. Staal and are coming from up north. They should be wonderful !!

President's Message

I'm greatly honored to write my first "President's Message" as we commence another year of the South Bay Orchid Society. A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing President and new Director **Tom Renger**, who did an outstanding job for the past two years by handling with confidence, authority, and complete success any challenging issues that came up. At our installation dinner **Tom** was presented with a beautiful crystal vase with a Cymbidium motif by our Show Chair **Marla Corey**. The installation banquet was a great success due to the great entertainment provided by Kendrake the Magician who was after **Don Goss'** head with a guillotine magic trick. Thankfully, Don's head is still intact and attached to his body.

Most of you know me from the SBOS website, newsletter articles, meetings, and our annual shows and raffles. I have been updating, editing, and revamping our SBOS website since October 2008. I also send our email-list members monthly notice of the Inflorescence newsletter edited by **Eeva Renger**. I'm indebted to **Don Goss**, our Publicity Chair and re-elected Director, for his invaluable help throughout the year. **Don** is responsible for developing our modern website along with the email notification program.

Special thanks and appreciation go to **Eeva Renger** who did double duty as our Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor. I wish to also thank **Marla Corey** for all her hard work and effort in planning, organizing, recruiting vendors, and setting up our two annual shows. We couldn't do it without her.

Last but not least I wish to thank each member who has volunteered his or her time during our monthly meetings, annual shows, and special events. I want to encourage any SBOS member who has not been active in our society's shows and events to participate by volunteering and getting to know your fellow members and helping the society out in its various functions for a fun and rewarding way. The knowledge gained will benefit you immensely and you will thank yourself for helping. We are always in need of your continued participation and support. Why not tell a co-worker, friend, or relative about the society and invite them to one of our meetings.

The following Board Members and Committee Chairs have exhibited, above and beyond the call of their job descriptions, an extraordinary willingness in keeping our society affairs running efficiently and smoothly during the last year.

Susan Amini – 1st V.P.
Nick Braemer – Director
June Brooks & Joanne Green – Refreshments
Marla Corey – Show Chair
Burt Dobratz – Raffle Ticket Sales
Don Goss – Director & Publicity Chair
Ron Henry – Property Manager
Marilyn Hill - Southland Representative
Christine Hough – Treasurer
Kayo Libiano – 2nd V.P. & Librarian
Saul Miller – Secretary & Ribbon Judging
David Okihara – Meeting Setup
Eeva Renger – Newsletter Editor and Membership Chair
Tom Renger – President
Dr. Robert Streeter – Director Emeritus & AOS Representative
Kathy West – Sunshine

Please join me in welcoming our newest elected board member, **Charlotte Morrison** who is now our Membership Chair.

As a reminder - this is our annual membership renewal month, please see **Charlotte** during our meeting to renew your yearly membership, or download the [renewal form](#) from our website and mail it with your payment to the address on the form. For general mail, please make a note of our new mailing address:

South Bay Orchid Society
P.O. Box 3793
Torrance, CA 90510-3793

Arthur Hazboun - President and Webmaster

South Bay Orchid Society Board

President: Arthur Hazboun..... 310-995-1592
SPECIALORCHIDS AT SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY DOT COM

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: Charlotte Morrison 310-316-8193
CLAZARMORRISON AT YAHOO DOT COM

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 310-995-1592
SPECIALORCHIDS AT SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY DOT COM

Directors:

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

Don Goss 310-316-3595
ORCHIDS AT SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY DOT COM

Tom Renger 310-316-0707
TOMSBOS AT VERIZON DOT NET

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

SBOS Committee Chairs

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

Raffle Tickets: *OPEN*

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

Ribbon Judging: Saul Miller..... 310-558-1545

Property Manager: Ron Henry 310-374-9699

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

AOS Liaison: Robert Streeter 310-541-6692

Southland Representative: Marilyn Hill 310-675-0604

Sunshine: Kathy West 310-643-8740

Publicity: Don Goss 310-316-3595
ORCHIDS AT SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY DOT COM

Committee Chair Needed

Burt Dobratz has resigned as Raffle Ticket Committee Chair and we need to fill the position as soon as possible

2009-2010 Ribbon Judging Winners

Advanced Amateur

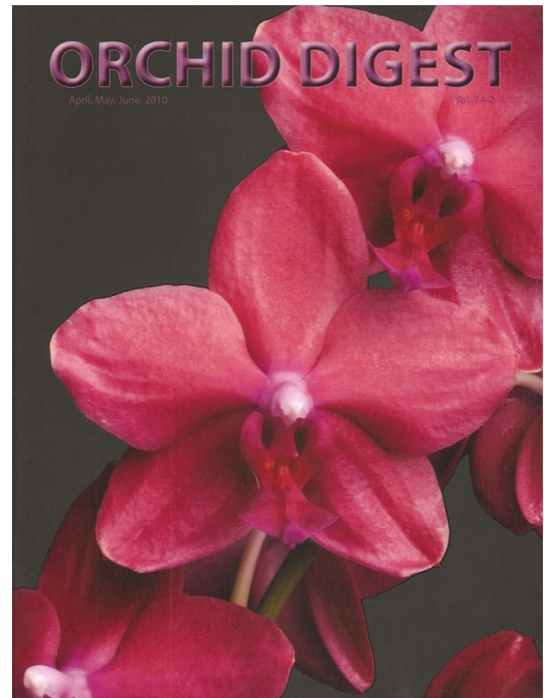
1st Place: Don Goss
 2nd Place: Ted & Jackie Johnson
 3rd Place: Bobby Ignacio

Amateur

1st Place: Lorena Cruz
 2nd Place: Nang Myint
 3rd Place: Kayo Libiano

Congratulations!

All winners will receive one-year subscription to Orchid Digest magazine.



Please volunteer as a one-time aide to determine if you would like to become a permanent Committee Member. Just show up at the raffle ticket desk to help.

Remember, all Committee and Board members are volunteers and many devote a considerable amount of time for our Society. A few hours of your time is all we ask.

Grammatophyllum speciosum

Follow up to Grammatophyllum speciosum article of a few months ago



Courtesy of
[http://
www.nationaalherbarium.nl/pubs/
orchidweb/genera/
Grammatophyllum/
Grammatophyllum
speciosumAS_SBG
.jpg](http://www.nationaalherbarium.nl/pubs/orchidweb/genera/Grammatophyllum/GrammatophyllumspeciosumAS_SBG.jpg)

The Kraken has been released, the beast is here. A few days ago Kawamoto Orchids shipped the Gramm speciosum I talked about a few months ago. The box was fashioned out of two 'coffin' boxes they taped together. It weighed 141 lbs. Shipping something like this by FedEx would have cost a fortune, so they shipped it Delta Cargo at a cost of \$151.

Not bad considering the box was over 6' long. I had to pick it up at LAX, a minor inconvenience. Got it home and wrestled with it an entire afternoon before I got it planted and situated. I could not lift the plant so with the help of a friend, I set it into a 40-gallon tub. The pot is 29" across, 25" deep. I drilled about 100 one-inch holes in the side for ventilation. To keep the weight down, there is a 6" to 8" layer of Styrofoam at the bottom. Some peanuts but mostly larger pieces. Home Depot sells a 4' x 2' x 2" panel of Styrofoam which I ripped into 2" pieces. The rest is a mix of large and medium bark.

It rests on a 4'x 4' x 4' stand which elevates it high enough so it gets full sun from sun-up to sun-down. It was going to have to share a 8' x 8' space with two garbage cans but I did not

think that did it justice, so I moved the garbage cans to a better location. They actually look good in the dining room, it's a unique decoration you don't see every day.

The plant has 29 canes, 9 of which are new, no evidence of flower stalks, old or new. The long canes are exactly 5' long and there are a few which flare out to the side giving it a wingspan of 7'. That's how it fills the 8' x 8' space beautifully. It's a majestic sight, and I don't get tired looking at it.

It's a huge plant, but for them just a teenager at best. I don't know when it will have it's first bloom but intend to keep it mobile so I could take it to at least one show or even just a meeting. After that I'll relocate it closer to the ground, maybe 12" up and let the roots reach the soil. Apparently they firmly root themselves into their permanent location.

Now my 150-lb Sulcata tortoise and the 8' long Burmese Python have a worthwhile companion in the plant world. Ahnuld said he'll get one real quick before Jay Leno gets a bigger one.

Nick Braemer

Clean Water Revisited by Nick Braemer

As some of you may know, I just finished building a cold and warm greenhouse. The last step was to locate the RO system inside the cold GH and perfect the watering system. I thought it might be time to re-discuss the pros and cons of clean water.

Clean water is free of the impurities, trace elements, Chlorine and Chloramines commonly found in tap water. We are lucky, our tap water parts per million (ppm) is around 300. In San Diego they have to contend with levels as high as 800 ppm. Three types of 'Clean Water' are commonly available; reverse osmosis (RO) distilled, ionized (DI), and soft water. Orchids don't like soft water so scratch that one and don't use it if you live in a complex that has soft water.

RO and DI are equally beneficial, DI is easier to install and use, RO is cheaper by a factor of five or more. DI comes to you with the pressure of the city water system, RO trickles out and needs to be stored and pressurized.

To get DI, you just phone a supplier, they install the tanks and recharge them as needed, you pay rent on the equipment and pay for the recharging. Water comes under pressure, ready for use with a garden hose. Simple to initiate, easy to use.

To get RO, you need to purchase a unit, then store the water and pressurize it so you can spray it. Some tinkering is required, the initial outlay is much higher but the long term cost is much lower.

I will try to explain my system. If you really want to follow the path of the water, draw it on a piece of paper as we go along. Starting point is the city water which goes to a Syphonex fertilizer and to a hose bib. Tap water then is available either enriched or straight.



[Apex Reverse Osmosis](#)

Another line goes to the RO unit and supplies the source water. RO water is generated at the rate of 40 gallons per day (different capacities are available) and goes either to two 44-gallon garbage cans hooked together, or to a system which supplies water to my Discus aquariums inside the house. There is a sensor near the top of the cans which shuts off the RO unit when the cans are full and immediately turns it

back on as water is used. In essence, the storage containers are always kept full.

From the full cans the water emerges and can go to a faucet where one can fill a bottle for personal use or go to the 'Demand Pump'. A 'Demand Pump' is what's used in motor homes or trailers and goes on when you turn on the tap. You can hear the pump then, it goes off when water is no longer needed. My demand pump delivers water at 3 GPM, enough for a decent spray radius.

From the pump the water either goes directly to my watering wand or is forced to pass through an automatic fertilizer dispenser which can be set to give the desired concentration of fertilizer and then joins the above watering line.

.....cont. p. 6

.....clean water from p. 5

I have, with the flick of a valve, one of the following four options available:

- ◇ Tap water
- ◇ Tap water with fertilizer
- ◇ RO water
- ◇ RO water with fertilizer

Initial cost:

RO unit: \$220

Demand Pump: \$150

Maintenance cost:

- ◇ Replacing the main membrane twice over this length of time: \$220 (\$110 each)
- ◇ Replacing the pre-filter 20 times (every six months): \$280 (\$14 each)

RO unit total cost over 10 years: \$870.

Adding garbage cans, PVC valves etc brings the cost to \$1,000, give or take a little, or less than \$9.00 per month.

Cost of a DI system I know about which probably has delivered less water than I have used:

Initial cost: \$0.00

Monthly rent: \$25.00

Recharging: approx \$50 every two months, sometimes more, sometimes less.

DI system total cost over 10 years: \$6,000
or approx \$50 per month.

I have not included the cost of the fertilizing unit as that is an optional item for either system and has nothing to do with the production of clean water. Mine cost about \$250.

If any of you want to see my system or would like my help to put one together, feel free to call me. Ahnuld would like one too but needs 2/3 approval from the legislators to pay for it which he'll never get.

Nick

Orchid Show and Sale September 18 & 19, 2010



It is July and the planning has begun for our annual Fall Show and Sale at the South Coast Botanic Garden. The letters have been mailed and vendors have begun signing up to sell at our show. It is also time to ask you, our members, to volunteer to work at the show. Working at the show is fun and a great way to get to know fellow members. I will have sign-up sheets at the July meeting or you can phone me at 310-833-1918. This show is our way of supporting the SCBG Foundation, as all our proceeds are donated to them.

Marla Corey
Show Chair

Year after year our Shows prove to be delightful and full of amazing orchid buys. Fall Show setup is Friday, September 17 which replaces our regular monthly meeting. Do come and help us set up the hall for the weekend any time between 9am-9pm.

Orchid Calendar

Our future membership meetings are

- ◆ **July 16, (3rd Friday)**
- ◆ **August 27, (4th Friday)**
- ◆ **September 17, (3rd Friday)**
*Fall show setup; everyone is invited
but there will be no regular meeting*
- ◆ **Culture sessions start 7 pm**
- ◆ **General meetings start 8 pm
at South Coast Botanic Garden**

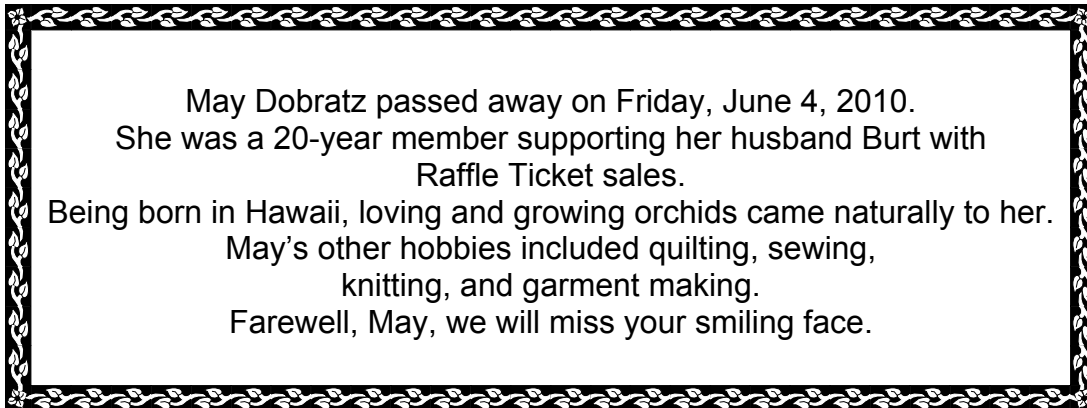
Next board meeting will be

- ◆ **July 20, 2010**
Call 310-995-1592 for more info

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation Upcoming Events 2010

- ◆ July 11, Cactus Society Lecture, 1pm-4pm
- ◆ July 15, Garden Walk - Wildlife, 5pm-7pm
- ◆ July 17-18, L.A. Fern Show, 9am-4:30pm
- ◆ July 18, P.V. Symphonic Band Pops & Picnic, 6pm-8pm
- ◆ July 25, Pruning Lecture, 1pm-4pm
- ◆ August 1, Bubble Rock Kids Concert, 4:30pm-6:30pm
- ◆ August 19, Garden Walk - Unusual Plants, 5pm-7pm
- ◆ August 21, Dahlia Show and Sale, 12 noon-4pm

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](#)



**This is your friendly reminder that
membership dues for 2010-2011 are payable now.
Family membership is still only \$17/year.**

Susan has done a notable job in finding well-known speakers and she has promised to continue her efforts this year. To continue the pleasure of hearing great speakers and informative culture sessions, please download your renewal application here [renewal form](#), complete all information and mail it to the address on the form, or bring it to our monthly meeting. Forms are available at our meeting for those who don't have access to the web.

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

NEXT MEETING DATE IS July 16; 3rd FRIDAY

Upcoming Events

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](#)

San Diego International Orchid Fair

October 1-3, 2010

San Diego Botanical Gardens

[San Diego Show](#)