



Schomburgkia sawyeri
Courtesy of Ben Machado

The INFLORESCENCE

"Orchids for Amateurs"

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.
P.O. BOX 3793
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www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com

Founded in July 1957

Our November 18, 2011 Guest Speaker is Ben Machado "The Confused World of Schomburgkia's"

Ben has been growing orchids for the last 19 years. It started off as concern for something to do with retirement approaching. Now, after 10 years of retirement, the little dabbling has turned out to be a hobby obsession gone out of control. Does that sound familiar to anyone?

The obsession started with Cattleya hybrids, moving on to Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Paphs, Bulbophyllums, etc., etc., before settling in with a special focus on species orchids. Along the way, Ben began to take particular interest in Schomburgkias, primarily because of their conduciveness to his growing conditions in the East County of San Diego where the temperatures are higher and the light is more pronounced. He found that the world of Schomburgkias is not well defined, that there is plenty of misidentification and classification change is ongoing. As a result, he conducted his own study to help him with identification and classification. That has since turned into his presentation on Schomburgkias titled "The Confused World of Schom-

burgkia's". Ben is proud to say that he is one of the few orchid enthusiasts in the country who has the complete collection of Schomburgkia species.

As if the orchid growing wasn't enough, Ben started an orchid supplies business. He and his wife, Susie, have an at-home business specializing in the needs of the orchid grower. His business carries medium, fertilizers, growing pots and decorative pots, hangers, baskets, etc. Some of his stock will be available for sale at the meeting. You can expect some supplies in high demand by orchid growers and some hard to find items, favored by orchid growers but not always readily available.

Over the years, Ben has been an active member of the San Diego County Orchid Society, serving as a Board Member and Show Director. He is currently the Show Director for the San Diego International Orchid Fair held at San Diego Botanic Garden, formerly Quail Gardens.

Ben will also provide the plant table and give a brief culture session.

I'll be meeting our speaker at Mimi's Cafe at 5:30 PM the night of our meeting and would like to encourage anyone to attend who can swing the logistics of an extended evening. Please call or email me so I can have an approximate head count for seating. The cafe is usually empty at that time and should have no difficulty accommodating us. We'll go Dutch, don't forget your credit card.

Nick Braemer

From the President's Desk



Blc. Goldenzelle 'Yellow Sapphire' AM/AOS
Grown and photographed by Arthur Hazboun

Last month's guest speaker Theresa Hill, owner of Hillsvie Gardens, generously donated the balance of her plants that were not sold to the society. Look for these excellent healthy plants at our November meeting on our silent auction table in the classroom for a chance to obtain a highly priced plant for a very reasonable cost. Please visit the hillsviegardens.com website for culture information, photos, and pricing on these plants. My thanks to everyone who purchased raffle tickets at the October meeting, we do appreciate your support and it's a great way to add to your orchid collection.

The board of directors voted to donate \$1,000 revenue earned at our Fall Show to the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation. This is our yearly donation and our way of thanking them for allowing us to conduct our monthly, board meetings, special events, and our annual fall show. Please support the garden by becoming a member. Check out the events at the revamped garden's website: [South Coast Botanic Garden](http://SouthCoastBotanicGarden.com).

If you still haven't renewed your membership, please do so at any of our meetings or mail

your payment directly to our membership chair Charlotte Morrison. Charlotte has been working real hard on getting the 2011-2012 membership directory ready. They will be available for distribution to any active member at our November meeting. Please be sure to pick up a copy along with your membership card. The directory is full of information regarding the by-laws, rules, judging regulations, meeting information, and just about everything you wanted to know about the society. It also lists all current members and a full roster of vendors/growers in our area. A big thank you to all returning members and new members.

Our Christmas/Holiday Potluck is fast approaching. The date is December 16, 2011 at our usual meeting location at the South Coast Botanic Garden main hall. This will be in lieu of our monthly meeting and there will not be a guest speaker. If you're an active member, the society will give you a gift of a near blooming Cattleya orchid in a four-inch pot. One plant per membership/household. We purchase these from Hawaii specifically for our Holiday giveaway. More details will be forthcoming in the December newsletter; circle your calendar and plan to participate in all the joyous festivities and some other surprises. All we ask is for you to bring in a dish to share with everyone else - this could be an appetizer, salad, side dish, main dish, dessert, beverage, or whatever else strikes your fancy. We will have sign-up sheets at our November meeting. I will be presenting the "*Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence*" to one lucky recipient at the potluck dinner.

**I want to wish each of you and your families a
Happy & Healthy Thanksgiving**

Arthur Hazboun - President and Webmaster, SBOS, Inc.

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ScI. Love Castle
 Larry Bergen

Special Silent Auction Plants

Theresa Hill of Hillsview Gardens (our speaker last month) has donated 20 plants to the society for our Silent Auction. They are all Paphiopedilums (Lady Slippers). They will be available at the November meeting. Some of these plants are just now coming into bloom (at the time I was preparing this list).

Qty Paphiopedilum Plant Name

- 2 (Greenvale 'Hillsview' x Denehurst 'Surprise' AM/RHS)
- 2 Omdurman (Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable' FCC/AOS x Milionette 'Bagdad' AM/AOS)
- 2 Keyeshill (Carl Keyes 'Surefire' B/CSA x Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable' FCC/AOS)
- 2 (Ceasar Pitta 'Marble Head B/CSA x Spotglen 'Doodlebug' HCC/AOS)
- 3 (Agincourt 'San Carlos' AM/AOS x Greenvale 'Hillsview')
- 2 (Duncan York 'Southard' AM/AOS x Thunder Bay 'Flash' AM/AOS)
- 1 (Olympic Mountains 'Grande' x Greenvale 'Hillsview')
- 2 (Hellas 'Westonbirt' FCC/RHS x Duncan York 'Shouthard' AM/AOS)
- 1 Vanda M. Pearman (bellatulum 'Dumbo' x delenatii 'Pink Butterfly')
- 1 Dollgoldi (rothschildianum 'Early Bird' x armeniacum 'Golden Globe')
- 2 vietnamense (This is a species)

Opening Bid on each plant is \$10.00
 Many of these flowers can be seen on:
<http://www.hillsviewgardens.com>

Don Goss

Newsletter submissions cut-off date is the 1st of each month for articles and photos to be included in that month's issue. Items presented after the 1st may be included in the following month's edition. We welcome all orchid related news and photographs submitted by email. No special formatting or editing is needed. Any questions, please call Eeva @310.316.0707.

Mericlone, Meristem, Meri What? By Arthur Hazboun

I'm sure some of you have heard of the first two terms in the title, but here's a brief recap for all who need a refresher course or for members who have never heard of these terms.

Mericlone is defined as the artificial duplication of an original orchid plant in the laboratory by the technique of meristem propagation. A mericlone is an identical plant from the original. The meristem is the tissue of a plant which mainly consists of undifferentiated cells where the growth takes place. There are several meristems in a plant. An apical meristem is defined as the growing tip in the root, shoot apical meristems are stem cells which can differentiate into either a leaf or flower. Sympodial orchids may contain up to five apical meristems.

The history of meristem culture dates back to 1960 when Professor Georges Morel was working on methods of eradicating viral diseases in potatoes. Professor Morel was renowned for culture of plant tissues and for developing media favorable to the growth of embryonic plant tissue at the meristem tips. Morel was able to obtain adult plants from implants of the meristem; however, the notion of dividing the growing tips was not realized. In 1958 Morel discovered that the apices (growing tips) of virus affected cymbidium orchids multiplied more slowly than those of plant cells. One of Morel's assistants, Mme. Missonnier, discovered that an accidental division of the tuber shaped protocorms produced as many plantlets as there were fragments. In 1964 Morel was able to culture from a single meristem several bits and repeat the process several times over, ever increasing the number of plantlets from a single protocorm.

This remarkable discovery eventually led to the vegetative multiplication of orchids by dissection and cultivation of meristems. The famous French orchid growers Maurice Lecoufle and Michel Vacherot were the first to embark on a

large commercial scale of reproduction of orchids.

Modern plant culture techniques are done under aseptic conditions in sterile laboratories using highly automated systems with highly experienced technicians. Today commercial orchid nurseries carry out this procedure by the hundreds of thousands producing identical plants in a relatively short period of time. Rare and unusual plants which could not be grown by seed can now be multiplied easily at an amazingly fast rate. Consequently, this has resulted in the lowering of prices of orchids to make them readily available to everyone.

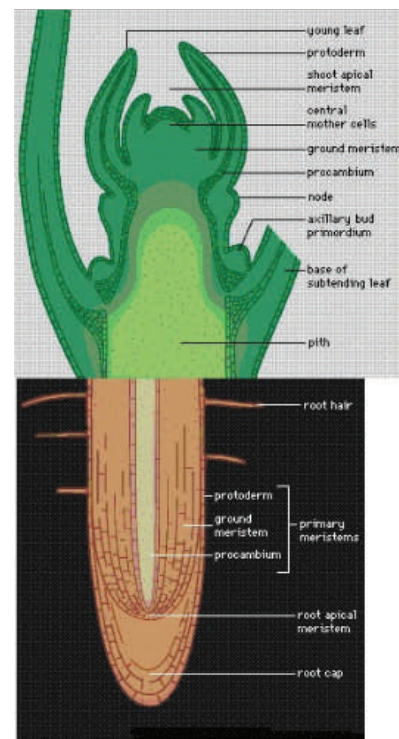


Diagram is a courtesy of <http://www.excellup.com/classnine/sciencenine/tissuesnine.aspx>

Ribbon Judging Results October 2011

Amateur

Genera		Plant	Grower
Cattleya	1	Blc. Merrily Murison	Wilma Tawagon
	2	C. Caudebec 'Carmela' HCC/AOS	Wilma Tawagon
	3	Blc. Dennis Kone 'Ruby Red'	Wilma Tawagon
Oncidium	1	Onc. Unknown	Cathy Martinez
	2	Onc. Sweet Sugar	Hans Grellmann
	3	Onc. Unknown	Fe Woods
Other	1	Burrageara Nelly Isler 'Swiss Beauty AM/AOS	?
	2	Phal. Unknown	Hans Grellmann
	3	Brassavola nodosa 'Mas Mejor'	Susan Delgado

Advanced Amateur

Genera		Plant	Grower
Cattleya	1	Slc. Marcia Streeter 'Streeters First' HCC/AOS	Dave Streeter
	2	Blc. Love Castle	Larry Bergen
	3	Lc. Bower Alba 'Pink Lady'	Jasmine Bashi
Other	1	Paph. Hellas Dr. Knock	Bobby Ignacio
	1	Odont. Jorisianum	Jasmine Bashi
	1	Trich. Philippinensis	Polly Kinsinger

Judge's Choice

Maxillaria endersii

Nick Braemer



Odontoglossum Jorisianum
Jasmine Bashi



Lc. Stephen O'Fouraker
J & J Johnson

Be Aware of Synonyms and Nomenclature Changes It Will Save You Money

I don't know how many times I have purchased a new *Dendrobium*, *Encyclia*, etc. only to find out it's a synonym of a plant I already possess. I'm now collecting *Dracula* and this is a problem, worse than in any other genera I have encountered. Not really a problem, as it is easily rectified, unless you don't pay attention, in which case your pocketbook will hemorrhage. I got burned by purchasing *Dracula lactea* and *lactea* var *xanthia* which are synonyms for *velutina* and *velutina* var *xanthia*. I already have those, money wasted.

There are 108 recognized *Dracula* species. There are also 24 recognized synonyms (depending on your source) giving you a total of 132 names under which 108 plants could be offered. *Dracula erythrochaete* is a prime example. The synonyms are *Drac. burbridgeana*, *gaskelliana*, *leonum*, and *trinympharum*. Except for *burbridgeana*, I have seen them all offered for sale by some reputable vendors. Recently I looked at two wholesale lists and found this plant represented three times at three different prices. I almost bought *gaskelliana* from Andy, at the last minute I recognized the mistake and pulled back.

Worst case scenario for the unsuspecting collector is to buy *Drac. erythrochaete* five times and each time get the same plant. When buying a plant with which you are not very familiar, it's definitely worth to Google and otherwise research it. At an orchid show that used to be difficult, modern phones make it now possible. The advice is to do it, unless you want to drop some dinero for a plant you already possess.

Then there is the problem with nomenclature changes. This is nothing short of endemic. *Bulbos* have been fragmented, *Encyclias* are so fragmented that most people ignore the new names and simply call them *Encyclias*, when

actually another name is correct. I have heard that the fragmentation of *Masdevallias* is now officially accepted. In Luer's book he suggests the following, which I quote:

"From among the subgenera of Masdevallia are established the new genera Acinopetala, Alaticaulia, Buccella, Byrcella, Fissia, Luzana, Megema, Petalodon, Pteroon, Regalia, Reichantha, Spectaculum, Spilotantha, Streptoura, Tritosiphon, and Zahleria."

When that reaches common use, mass confusion will reign.

Like I said, unless you know the plant, don't buy it without checking what it might be. A *Dendrobium farmeri* is just that, no need to check, but when you find a new exciting plant you never heard of before, make the effort to find out what it really is. It may be an old friend already growing in your collection.

Ahnuld says that in the dark, all orchids are the same, so it's no problem.

Nick Braemer



Trichoglottis Philippinensis
Polly Kinsinger

Orchid Calendar 2011–2012

Our future membership meetings are

- ◆ **November 18** (3rd Friday)
- ◆ **December 16** (Holiday Party)
- ◆ **January 20**, (3rd Friday)

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

Next board meeting will be

- ◆ **November 22**
Call 310-995-1592 for more info

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation Upcoming Events

- ◆ Tram tours most Saturdays at 11am & 1pm
- ◆ Free Admission to Garden every 3rd Tuesday
- ◆ Tuesdays - Ikebana 10am, Fall Photo Walk 3pm
- ◆ Wednesdays - Craft Workshop 9am, Basic Drawing 10am
- ◆ Thursdays - One-Stroke Painting 10am
- ◆ November 20; So. Coast African Violet Soc. Lecture 2pm
- ◆ December 11; Christmas Concert 2:30pm

Please support our host, the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation for any of these educational and fun filled events. For more information and verification of hours and events, visit their website SCBG or call 310-544-1948.

**2011 Annual Potluck Holiday Party
December 16th at the Garden
Sign up at our November meeting**

**Questions?
Call Kayo at 310-897-8085
or use this link [party info](#)
to email her**



**More information in
December's Newsletter**

New members: When you come to the next meeting, stop by the membership desk to pick up your name badge and a new member package. We will include ten free plant table raffle tickets as our "thank you" for joining SBOS.

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

OUR MEETING DATE IS November 18, 3rd Friday

Upcoming Events

Casa de las Orquideas Annual Open House
December 3-4, 2011
170 S. Nardo Ave, Solana Beach, CA 92075
Call for more info 858-755-7572

**Orchid Society of Santa Barbara
Annual Fall Show and Sale**
"Orchids: Nature's Masterpieces"
November 26-27, 2011
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
Info: [SB Fall Show 2011](#)

South Bay Orchid Society Spring Show and Sale
March 3-4, 2012
Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance, CA
Info: [SBOS Spring Show 2012](#)

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show
March 16-18, 2012 Earl Warren Showgrounds
3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA
General information: [SB Spring Show 2012](#)
Email: sborchidshow@gmail.com