



Masdevallia ignea 'Windflower' AM/AOS
2010 AOS Carlyle A. Luer Pleurothallid Award
Grown and exhibited by Betty P. Kelepecz

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

Our February 17, 2012
Guest Speaker is Betty P. Kelepecz

“Growing Masdevallias”

Betty P. Kelepecz has been an orchid hobbyist in Southern California for over almost 30 years. She has grown orchids in Long Beach and Huntington Beach; and since 2003 has been growing orchids in the Point Loma area of San Diego. Betty started raising orchids in the early 1980's when her husband Steve and co-orchid grower brought home a discarded cutting/keiki of a red Epidendrum he found in a trash bin in the alley beside their home in Long Beach. He planted the unimpressive and bloomless cutting on a moss-covered rock he had been growing for over 10 years and confidently predicted that it would bloom beautifully in no time. When the epidendrum actually bloomed and then, never stopped blooming, the disbelieving Betty became an orchid enthusiast and Steve's and her collection of orchids has continued to grow with the unwavering passion so often accompanying that first orchid discovery.

Among their 800 + orchids which grow outside, in a small greenhouse and a recently constructed shade structure in San Diego; Betty and Steve grow a large selection of species orchids. Betty enjoys the challenge of replicating the oft-challenging environments required by species orchids and particularly enjoys the challenge of growing pleurothallids. Since 2005 she has become a successful Masdevallia and Dracula grower. Betty began growing pleurothallids after she joined the San Diego County Orchid Society in 2005 and as informed by several members that her home in Point

Loma was a good environment for growing her favorite but not yet successfully grown orchid, Masdevallia veitchiana. She was also encouraged to join the Society's Species Group.

As a result, Betty began growing Masdevallias outside in her side yard, under a small overhang which partially shaded the side patio area of the house. That particular location has become a perfect micro-climate for shade-loving, cool-growing orchids. Betty's collection has since grown to 175 almost exclusively species Masdevallias. She also grows over 65 species of Draculas and several of her Masdevallias and Draculas have been awarded American Orchid Society awards. She has also established a small but, quite functional orchid flasking lab in her home where she has been hobby flasking and growing predominantly species orchids for about four years.

Betty's talk will be on growing Masdevallias and will include a discussion of the transition from being a beginner Masdevallia grower (since we all have been a beginner grower of one species or another) to a more seasoned Masdevallia grower and the lessons she has learned along the way, as well as how to extend that success to the growing of predominantly cool-growing Pleurothallid species including Draculas.

Betty will also present the culture session on the care and nurturing of thin rooted Orchids.



President's Message Arthur Hazboun SBOS President and Webmaster
February 2012

This month marks the start of prime Orchid show season. Our Spring Show and Sale is on March 3rd and 4th. I encourage every able member to volunteer some time and show your support by helping us out at the show in any category that you are most comfortable with. Setup is scheduled for the morning of March 2nd at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center; with plant registration starting at 4 PM. Our show hostess Kayo Libiano and host Charles Brown will be at the February meeting eagerly waiting for you to sign up with your name and phone number along with the activity you will be volunteering for, or if you prefer please contact them directly by phone or email. Please see our website

<http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com/Show/index.html> for full details, plant classifications, and registration slips.

I want to extend a very special welcome to my dear friend - this month's guest speaker Betty Kelepez. Betty is an excellent grower, hobbyist, and hybridizer of Masdevallias, Bulbophylums, Draculas and other orchid genera. Betty introduced me to our rewarding hobby about fifteen years ago and I'm glad she did. I wrote an article about my love for Orchids in the: December 2008 Inflorescence Newsletter, http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com/Newsletter/08_12_NewsL.pdf. Here are just a few award winning orchids grown by Betty.



Masd. lychniphora 'Windflower'
AM/AOS
Photo courtesy Betty P. Kelepez



Bulb. Betty Kelepez 'Windflower'
AM/AOS
Photo courtesy Betty P. Kelepez



Oncidium twinkle 'Windflower'
CCM/AOS
Photo courtesy Betty P. Kelepez

South Bay Orchid Society Board

President: Arthur Hazboun.....310-995-1592
SPECIALORCHIDSATSOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETYDOTCOM

1st Vice President: Nick Braemer310-560-4384
ORCHIDNICK AT YAHOO DOT COM

2nd Vice President: Kayo Libiano310-897-8085
KAYO AT LIBIANOCO DOT COM

Treasurer: Joe Woods.....310-641-0730
JWOODS0123 AT YAHOO DOT COM

Secretary: Larry Bergen310-326-5405
LMJK AT EARTHLINK DOT NET

Membership: Charlotte Morrison310-316-8193
CLAZARMORRISON AT YAHOO DOT COM

Newsletter Editor: Marcy Bergen.....310-326-5405
MARCYMOUSE56 AT HOTMAIL DOT COM

Show Chair: Marla Corey310-833-1918
MARLACOREY AT SBCGLOBAL DOT NET

Webmaster: Arthur Hazboun310-995-1592
SPECIALORCHIDSAT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT COM

Directors:

Polly Kinsinger310-374-6471
KINSINGERS AT ROADRUNNER DOT COM

Don Goss310-316-3595
ORCHIDS AT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT COM

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

Director Emeritus: Bob Streeter.....310-541-6692

SBOS Committee Chairs

Librarian: Kayo Libiano 310-897-8085

Raffle Tickets: Lori Storm 310-320-0202

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: Robert Streeter 310-541-6692

Southland Rep.: Marilyn Hill 310-675-0604

Sunshine: Kathy West 310-643-8740

Publicity: Don Goss 310-316-3595

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 Marcy@310.326.5405.

SBOS Annual Bus Trip to The 67th Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

When: Saturday, March 17, 2012

Cost: \$36.00 / Person

Parking Location:
 K-Mart parking lot at
 500 Carson Town Center
 (Corner of Torrance Blvd. & Figueroa)

Departure : Check in at 7:15 and bus leaves at 7:30AM
 Bus leaves Santa Barbara at 3:00PM
 (You should be back at your car by 6:30PM)

Agenda: 2 ½ Hours at Santa Barbara Orchid Estate & Cal Orchid
 2 Hours at the Santa Barbara Orchid Show

SPACE IS LIMITED SO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

More info & reservations?

Email Kayo at kayo at libiano dot com or leave me a message at 310-897-8085

Please make checks payable to SBOS and mail them to:

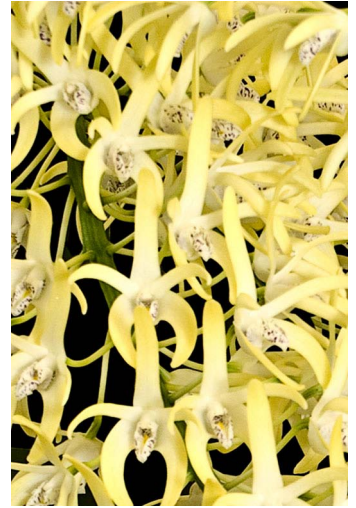
Kayo Libiano
 209 Beryl Street
 Redondo Beach, CA 90277



Dendrobium Species Revisited

By Nick Braemer

Dendrobium speciosum is one of the world's most under-rated and exciting of orchids capable of producing possibly the most spectacular shows of mass blooming of any known orchid. Extraordinarily tough, hardy, and drought tolerant, it should be one of the most cultivated plants ever! It can tolerate near frost to temperatures over 95F without damage. I have been a fan and collector of them for my entire "Orchid Life".



My first one was bought in 1997, a small plant labeled 'Dendrobium speciosum', 5 canes less than 10" high. I waited four years for flowers but the final reward was worth it. It now measures 7' X 7" X 5' has 42 canes and is making 58 flower stalks this spring. Not everyone has room for a monster like that, but every orchid collection should include one (smaller perhaps) nevertheless.

The trick with these is not cultivation, but the art of purchasing the right one. Cultivation is easy. It's very hardy, comes from a climate similar to ours, and requires minimal shade during the peak of midday summer heat. These plants can be grown potted or mounted, are very resistant to pests, and are reliable bloomers every spring.

They hail from the east coast of Australia and come in seven species. I'm not going into a detailed description of the seven varieties just the practical aspects of buying the right one for you. This link, <http://www.ssos.org.au/Differencevarietiespeciosum.htm> sums it up nicely. In choosing the right one decide how large a plant you want and the color of the flower you prefer.

The three giants are Dend speciosum v. hillii, v. grandiflorum, and v. speciosum. All have the potential of getting huge; however there is a marked difference in the flowers. V. grandi produces the rich yellows and is probably the most desirable one. V. speciosum leans more towards beige & cream. It often has a more open flower and also has produced some very outstanding clones. V. hillii is to be avoided as the flowers are white but present poorly.

The shortest caned forms are the pedunculatum forms from furthest north Queensland. They may have fully mature blooming sized canes at only 3" tall. When bred with the largest caned grandiflorums, it is possible to obtain deep colors but on relatively tiny canes.

Summing up, if you don't want to deal with a large plant then look into Dend speciosum v. pendiculatum, v. curvicaule and v. capricornicum. Den spec v. boreale is a rare pure white form not generally available. Most of the smaller ones produce cream to yellow flowers of different openness.

Since the purchase of one of these is like adopting a child, as the plant will be with you for the rest of your life, take the time to research it. Another reason for careful selection is that in all probability you'll have only one of these. If hillii is one of the parents, avoid it, if grandi or speciosum is part of the parentage, there is a possibility the plant may get large. Small plants sell for \$50 to \$100 and are 3 to 4 years from blooming. Minimum price is \$150 and up on blooming plants while colors like deep yellow or pure white will start at \$300. The best way to get what you really want is to buy one in bloom so you can see the nature of the flower as long as you are told the parentage.

Ribbon Judging Results January 2012
Judged by Bob Streeter & Marla Corey
Advanced Amateur

Cattleya	1. Blc. Beauty Girl	Marla Corey
	2. Blc. No Couchee Mission	Jasmine Bashi
Cymbidium	1. Cym. Ambarino Br/CSA	Bob Fisher
	2. Cym. Red Beauty "Evening Star"	Bob Fisher
	3. Cym Icho Tower "Tranquility"	Arthur Hazboun
Other	2. Adgm.Summit French Town	Larry Bergen
	3. Mclna. Chocolate Thunder	Larry Bergen

Amateur

Paphiopedilum	1. Bulldog Mipper Orchid	Wilma Tawagon
	2. Hsinyeng Citron #10 Farianum "Greenbaby"	Cathy Martinez
Cymbidium	1. Irish Green	Silvia Eastwood
	2. Clarrisse Austin "Ume"	Don Hammersmark
	3. Dr. Len Geyserland	Wilma Tawagon
Others	1. Ornithorhynchum	Don Hammersmark
	2. Phal. K.V. Charmer	Silvia Eastwood

Speaker's choice as Best of Meeting
 Coelogyne cristata "The Queen" AM/AOS
 Grown by Nick Braemer



Cym. Ambarino
 Grown by Bob Fisher



Judge's reminder: Please remember to clearly write your name for any plants submitted for judging. Plants submitted without grower's names, will not be judged.

Annual Spring Orchid Show and Sale “The Art of Orchids”

March 3rd and 4th, 2012

Our spring show is coming soon and planning is well underway. Vendors are signing up and publicity is getting out, but to make this show a success your society needs your help. We have members who have volunteered to be committee chairs and they need you to sign up to help.

Set-up: Takes place on Friday afternoon beginning at 1:00pm. This involves setting up and arranging tables as well as draping of the display tables. We will also need people to help bring things from storage on Friday morning. Call Ron Henry at (310) 374-9699.

Host and Hostess: People are needed throughout the show hours to talk to our guests and answer questions they may have. This position is also important for security. You need to make sure no one touches the plants or walks off with one. (Plant theft is a serious problem at some shows.) This position also includes the plant hotel table and the ticket sales area. Call Kayo Libiano at (310) 897-8085 to volunteer on Saturday and Charlie Brown at (310)377-7083 to volunteer on Sunday.

Food: Lots of food is needed to feed our hungry volunteers and vendors throughout the show. We have been short on food the last few shows so please bring a casserole, salad, fried chicken etc. when you come to work your shift. If you are bringing food on Sunday, it needs to be there by 11:30 am. Call Joann Green at (310) 830-1585.

Publicity: Don Goss is in charge of publicity. Everyone can help by putting up posters and passing out flyers in their neighborhoods. Flyers and posters will be available at the February meeting.

Plant Registration: Registration will take place on Friday in the show room beginning at 4:00pm and ending at 9:00pm. I hope everyone will bring in their blooming plants for judging. I have noticed that some of the best plants have been in the novice category so don't be shy about putting your plants in the show for ribbon judging. All we ask is they have been in your possession for a minimum of 3 months and be free of pests and disease. We will have AOS and CSA judging for those of you with exceptional plants in bloom. The classification list is available on our website with the registration slips.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the February meeting or you can call the show chair directly. Volunteering a few hours of your time is a great way to get to know your fellow society members and we always have a good time. Call me if you have any questions about the show or the volunteer positions.

Marla Corey, show chair
(310) 833-1918



Orchid Calendar

Our future membership meetings are

- ❖ February 17 (3rd Friday)
- ❖ March 3-4 Spring Show
- ❖ March 16 (3rd Friday)
- ❖ April 13 (2nd Friday)

- ❖ Cultural sessions start 7pm
- ❖ General meetings start 8pm
at South Coast Botanic Garden

Next board meeting will be

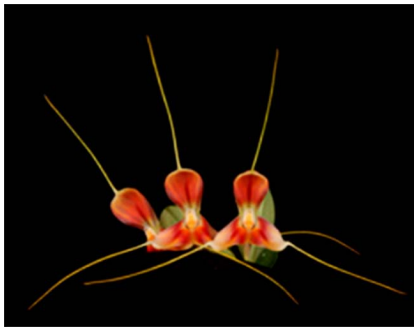
- ❖ February 21
Call 310-995-1592 for more info.

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Tram tours most Saturdays at 11am & 1pm
- ❖ Free Admission to Garden every 3rd Tuesday
- ❖ February 18; Family Picnic Day 9am – 5pm
- ❖ Tuesdays- Ikebana Class 10am
- ❖ Wednesdays – Craft Workshop & Duplicate Bridge Class
- ❖ Thursdays – One-Stroke Painting 10am

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 <http://www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org> or call 310-544-1948.



Masd. xanthina 'Windflower'
AM/AOS

Photo courtesy Arthur Pinkers
Grown by Betty Kelepecz



Masdevallia davisii
Grown by Betty Kelepecz



Masd. Mandarin
Photo by Arthur Pinkers
Grown by Betty Kelepecz

HELP NEEDED We are seeking a few able bodied volunteers who can assist our meeting set-up chairperson Dave Okihara before each monthly meeting. This job entails setting up the tables, chairs, lights for the regular meeting at about 6:30 PM. Dave has been doing this regularly by himself for many years and he can use the help. The tables are awkward to handle by one person; however if he can get some help we sure would appreciate it and Dave will thank you personally. We usually have enough help at the end of the meeting with everyone pitching in to put the tables and chairs away

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 Marcy Bergen
23415 Juniper Ave.
Torrance, CA 90505

Printed by AcroPrint
23780 Hawthorne Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90505
(310)791-2651, <http://www.acroprint.us>

OUR MEETING DATE IS FEBRUARY 17, 3 rd Friday
Upcoming Events

Orchid Expo 2012 Show and Sale

Newport Harbor Orchid Society
"Romancing the Orchid"
February 10-12, 2012
1025 Westminster Mall, Westminster, CA
info: <http://www.nhos.org/shows/2012/home.html>

South Bay Orchid Society

Spring Show and Sale

March 3-4, 2012
Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance CA
<http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com/Show/index.html>

**San Diego County Orchid Society
Show and Sale**

"Galaxy of Orchids", March 9-12, 2012
Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South, CA
<http://www.sdorchids.com>

February 2012

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

March 16-18, 2012
3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA
General
Information: <http://www.sborchid.com/events.php>
Email: sborchidshow@gmail.com

South Bay Orchid Society

Fall Show and Sale

September 22-23, 2012
South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Pen., CA 90274
Info: <http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com>