



Cal Orchid display at Santa Barbara Orchid Show

The INFLORESCENCE

“Orchids for Amateurs”

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3793

Torrance, CA 90510-3793

<http://www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com>

Our April 18, 2014

**Guest Speaker is Gene
Crocker**

**“Cattleyas for the New
Millennium”**

Gene Crocker grew up in the northwestern part of South Carolina, not far from where he worked for 25 years as Vice-President of Carter and Holmes Orchids in Newberry, S.C. (He retired in December of 2010, but his home is only a three minute walk from the greenhouses.) He obtained his first orchid plants in 1956, when he was fifteen years old. These first plants were cattleyas, his first love, but he has an interest in all orchid genera.

After graduating from Clemson University in Textile Chemistry, he obtained a second degree in Meteorology from Penn State and served as a weather forecaster in the U.S. Air Force. He worked as Laboratory Manager for Cannon Mills, famous manufacturer of sheets and towels, for twenty years before joining Carter and Holmes in 1986.

As an amateur orchidist, Gene developed an interest in hybridizing, producing his first Cattleya hybrids in 1961. The creative aspects of orchid breeding have been very enjoyable and rewarding for him, always giving something to anticipate. For over 25 years he has carried on the breeding program at Carter and Holmes started in the 1950's by Bill Carter. Many of his hybrids have been awarded by the AOS, including two that received FCC's and one cross that received an Award of Quality. His Doritaenopsis Newberry Parfait 'Picotee' received an Award of Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society and has been popular in the “pot plant” trade throughout the world. Gene has traveled extensively, representing Carter and Holmes at various orchid conferences around the world. Perhaps his most enduring claim to orchid fame is the fact that he coined the term, “mericlone”, in 1964. In 2013, Gene was recognized by the American Orchid Society for outstanding accomplishments in orchid hybridizing.

Gene and his wife Kitty have three children and six grandchildren.

April President's Message

I'm this month's acting President. If you have been involved with our orchid society for very long, you should have realized that we have not had a regular president for the last two years. Why? No one has volunteered for the position. Our second vice president position (the one who organizes the fun activities) has also been open this year. At our next month's meeting on May 16 we will be conducting our general elections for the new 2014 - 2015 term. The roster of candidates is pending and we are looking for people to join the board.

Please inform me or any current board member, if any active society member is interested in running for a board position. We are always looking for new ideas, suggestions, and comments from anyone concerning the society. I urge you to consider volunteering and donate a few hours of your valuable time to help out the board by seeking an office you might be interested in. We can help you, guide you, teach you, and it's all volunteer fun. It doesn't take much time and our reward is seeing the society run smoothly, efficiently, and cohesively to enjoy our mutual love of orchids. Without new people joining in, the society runs the risk of waning. Please consider helping out by volunteering for an office.

I want to personally welcome each new member that signed up during our spring show in Torrance. We're glad to have you as a member and we hope you will enjoy, learn, and have fun with us at the South Bay Orchid Society for many years in the future. We are always looking for new members, so bring your neighbor or friend as a guest to one of the meetings. Word of mouth is a great way to get people interested.

As the spring shows and this year's blossoms are coming to an end, it is time to do some annual upkeep of your orchids. Basically it's repotting, dividing, cutting old inflorescences, stocking up on orchid supplies, checking for new growths, and looking for any problems that can plague our plants. If you do this diligently, your orchids should thrive during the upcoming season and reward you with some excellent blooms. All the best for beautiful blooms!

Charlotte Morrison

Acting President April 2014

MARCH RIBBON JUDGING RESULTS

SPEAKER'S CHOICE

Cypripedium Franchetti

Nick Braemer

AMATEUR

Cymbidium

1st: Cym. Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit'

Cathy Martinez

Cattleya

1st: Blc. Burdekin Wonder 'Lakeland'

Jerri & Nancy Larsson

Dendrobium

1st: Den. Variegatum

Jerri & Nancy Larsson

Other

1st: Dendrochilum cobbianum 23

Jerri & Nancy Larsson

2nd: Dendrochilum cobbianum 23

Jerri & Nancy Larsson

ADVANCED AMATEUR

Cymbidium

1st: Cym. Valley Splash 'Aurora'

Bob Fisher

2nd: Cym. Miretta 'Kagiti Isle'

Bob Fisher

3rd: Cym. Hot Line 'Plum Loco'

Bob Fisher

Dendrobium

1st: Den. speciosum gracilicaule

Fe Woods

2nd: Den. kingianum

Fe Woods

3rd: Den. Gillian Leaney x Den. Star of David

Art Hazboun

Phalaenopsis

1st: Phal. Portobello x Phal. Kathleendi

Ted Johnson

2nd: Dpts. Sogo Manager 'Gold Nugget#2'

Ted Johnson

Other Genera

1st: Paph. Peter Black

Ted Johnson

2nd: Oncidium unknown

Fe Woods

3rd: Lc 'Kauai Sniders'

Ted Johnson



C. Green Emerald 'Queve'
Grown by Bernadette
Nazareno



Cym. Pink Sonata 'Hot Candy' X
Allara Grown by Sylvia
Eastwood

HORIZONTAL EXPANSION OF A COLLECTION

Horizontal expansion in the business world is the acquisition of similar items to enrich the product. Orchid collecting can also work that way. Getting as many as is possible of a genus works along these lines. With *Bulbophyllums* of which there are 3,000 or more, this would not be practical. Completing a subgroup like the macrobulbons is possible and definitely worth trying. I have them all except *cruentum*, which even Andy (Andy's Orchids) can't grow. I have given up after several tries and I will no longer throw money at that one.

Epipactis is the one I want to talk about. *Epipactis gigantea* is a common California terrestrial, the 'Stream Orchid' they call it as it grows in the moist creek beds all over California and the US. There are certainly plenty of them in North San Diego County and people visit them on orchid nature walks. It's not commonly sold by orchid vendors, but a native plant nursery in Encinitas has it, and I bought it from them.

While talking to the guy, it became apparent that there exists a dark leafed variety named *Epipactis gigantea* 'Serpentine Nights'. This is the European version, which is not a different variety but a different form. Over 100 years ago someone brought one in from Europe and planted it in New England. Windborn seeds spread it all over North America and it is found in isolated colonies all over the US. Finding that one was more of a challenge. Eventually someone from the East Coast sent me two root stocks which have sprouted. I have since learned that there is a 'Native Plant Nursery in Santa Barbara that also has it. With its deep purple leaves and the contrasting orange flower it is said to be quite striking. Then I saw a Chinese one on Ebay and could not resist. *Epipactis Mairei* is also sprouting, far from its home in Asia.

These are not spectacular plants and one never sees them, but getting an American, European, and Asian variety was a little challenging as they are not commonly available. Since these are not beautiful plants like some of the *Coelogyne* for example, expanding the collection in that direction is fueled by desire to have interesting and unusual specimens. If I ever find another *Epipactis*, (there exist 73 different ones), I would immediately grab it. I call that horizontal expansion of the collection and I find it interesting, stimulating, and rewarding.

A Google search has revealed that three additional types, *palustris*, *royleana* and the hybrid *sabine* from German nurseries. I'm contemplating making a run at them but it's a bit of a pain with import issues and all.

Nick <http://www.orchidspecies.com/epipgigantea.htm> <http://www.orchidspecies.com/epipmairei.htm>
<https://www.joyusgarden.com/epipactis-gigantea-serpentine-night/>



Cym. Winter Fire
'Frosty Tips'
Grown by Bob
Streeter



Opportunity!

Our April speaker, Gene Crocker, is offering SBOS the opportunity to preorder plants at a 25% discount. See the information below.

Carter And Holmes Orchids

P.O. Box 668, 629 Mendenhall Road
Newberry, South Carolina 29108

Telephone (800) 873-7086

PRE-ORDERS for Orchid Societies

Although I will not bring plants for sale at the meeting, we do offer a **25% discount** on pre-orders from our catalog or web site. You will also receive a **Bonus plant** for every five plants ordered. (Call 800-873-7086 to request a catalog if you do not have one) There is a charge for packing and delivery totaling 10% of each order.

We recommend pre-payment for these orders, which will be delivered at the orchid society meeting. We prefer pre-payment using a charge card so we can adjust for sold out items and only charge for the plants delivered. If you place an order, please specify the name of the orchid society for delivery.

Our web site, www.carterandholmes.com contains all of the items available in our catalogs. (Collections and other discounted items may be ordered but do not qualify for the society discount.)

Plants will be bundled by customer name to assist in distribution.

Plants will be delivered to the meeting. Orders need to be received at least by 10 days before the meeting date to allow time for processing.

I look forward to meeting with you. Please e-mail directly to me if you have questions. twocrockers@gmail.com or call Carter and Holmes at 800-873-7086. Anyone may take your order as long as you specify the society name.

Gene Crocker



Speakers Choice

Cypripedium franchetti
grown by: Nick Braemer



Odontioda Bradshawiae Grown
by: Bob Streeter



Bulbophyllum Thai Spider
Grown by: Nick Braemer

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show 2014



Orchid Calendar

Our future membership meetings are held at the South Coast Botanic Garden

- April 18th (3rd Friday)
- May 16 (3rd Friday)
- June 21 Installation Picnic

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

The next board meeting will be
April 22

Call 310-316-8193 for more information

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

- ❖ April 5 Spring Plant Sale & Boutique
9AM
- ❖ April 12 & 13 So. Coast Cactus &
Succulent Society Show 9AM – 4PM
- ❖ April 27 Family Picnic Day – Spring
Blooms 9AM
- ❖ Tram tour offered each Saturday
1 PM

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>

South Bay Orchid Society Board

Acting President: Charlotte Morrison.....310-316-8193

1st Vice President: Nick Braemer.....310-560-4384
ORCHIDNICK AT YAHOO DOT COM

2nd Vice President: OPEN.....

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JWOODS0123 AT YAHOO DOT COM

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LMJK AT EARTHLINK DOT NET

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Arthur Hazboun310-995-1592
SPECIALORCHIDS AT SOUTHBAYORCHIDSOCIETY DOT COM

Director Emeritus: Bob Streeter310-541-6692
RJS.GES AT GTE DOT NET

SBOS Committee Chairs

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

Raffle Tickets: Cathy Martinez.....310-558-3434

Refreshments: June Brooks.....310-549-4266
Joann Green310-830-1585

Ribbon Judging: Charles Brown.....310-377-7083

Property Manager: Ron Henry310-374-9699

Meeting Set-up: David Okihara310-324-3211

AOS Liaison: Robert Streeter.....310-541-6692

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

Sunshine: Kathy West310-643-8740

Publicity: Karen Low.....310-541-4412

Welcome to Our New Members

To our 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
3545 Hawthorne Blvd. Unit B
Torrance, CA 90505
(310) 534-2276, <http://www.acroprint.us>

Our Next Meeting is April 18, 3rd Friday

Orchid Sale at Yamada Company
Featuring Hatfield Orchids
706 W. Gardena Blvd. in Gardena
(10:00 a.m. to 1:00p.m.)

Sale Dates

April 5, 2014

May 17, 2014

June 14, 2014

April 12, 2014 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Mariposa Garden Spring Sale 6664
South Street, Lakewood
www.mariposagarden.net
562-920-5588

April 16, 2014 7:30 p.m.
Orange County Orchid Society
Mounting Workshop Yorba
Linda Public Library
Community Room 18181
Imperial Highway Yorba Linda

May 31, 2014 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Casa de Las Orquideas Super
Seedling Sale info:
www.casa@orquideas.com 858-
755-7572