

The INFLORESCENCE

“Orchids for Amateurs”

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

P.O. BOX 3793

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www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com



Thomas Miranda, Arthur Hazboun, &
Jerri Larsson at SBOS meeting
August 2013

**Our January 18, 2019
guest speaker will be
Thomas Miranda
“Orchids From Colombia”**

Tom Miranda has been working professionally with orchids for over 30 years. He is an accredited AOS judge and the current chairman of the AOS conservation committee. He recently coauthored “The Book of Orchids”. A life-size guide of 600 species from around the world. Previously Tom was the Smithsonian Gardens orchid collection specialist for more than 15 years. Along with his duties maintaining and curating the Smithsonian’s collection of 9,000 orchids, Tom helped to develop educational displays for Smithsonian Garden exhibits visited by hundreds of thousands of museum patrons. He still frequently travels around the U.S. and internationally, giving talks and presentations to scientists as well as the general public about orchid ecology, pollination biology, and strategies for orchid conservation.

Originally trained as a marine biologist, Tom could no longer resist the lure of the flower and made the switch to plants and orchids while living in Hawaii in his 20s. He has worked with orchids at the New York Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and with the extensive private collection at the Greentree Estate in Long Island. He also served as floor manager at the New York International Orchid Show for several years.

The author of numerous articles on orchids, Tom’s contributions have appeared in the magazine of the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Review (UK), Orchid Digest and the Dutch publication, *Orchidee*. He is passionate about building partnerships between the overlapping circles of botanic gardens, hobby and commercial growers, and scientists to work toward the goal of protecting orchids and their habitats. In his free time, Tom sings with the Victorian Lyric Opera Company, recently as Oswald from Gilbert and Sullivan’s *Haddon Hall*.

January President's Message

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope we will all be blessed with a great New Year and lots of blooms and growth on our orchids.

I want to thank everyone that worked to make the December potluck a successful and enjoyable evening. We appreciate those who set up and decorated, worked in the kitchen, co-ordinated the plants for the evening, provided the music and the raffle opportunities, and cleaned up and put away at the end of the evening. This club requires a lot of behind the scenes work and planning. If you would be interested in helping and joining in, please speak with a board member.

It is getting to be cold outside at night for your orchids. For those of us that don't have greenhouses, we need to make provisions to protect our plants. In some cases that may mean bringing them inside. However, if you find that you have too many plants for that to be an option, you start to be creative and create makeshift shelters. Our house is an example of this. Off to Home Depot we go to purchase heavy duty clear plastic and clips. We wrap up the patio gazebo in plastic, place the orchids in trays, stack them on shelves, and add Christmas lights for warmth. When the gazebo gets filled, we use PVC pipes to create frames to hold up plastic over the other orchids. In this way we have created a temporary greenhouse that gets quite humid inside. If the weather gets too warm in the daytime or it is time to water the plants, we open up the plastic to let in the fresh air. So far this method has worked for us. Please feel free to share what methods you are using at your home. Contact Marcy with your information so we can share with everyone.

I hope you will join us for the January meeting. Tom Mirenda will be speaking to us about the orchids of Columbia. It should be a great evening and I hope to see you there.

Marcy Bergen,
Acting President



HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY

Thanks to Charlotte Morrison our second VP and membership chair for planning, organizing, and recruiting members for our holiday potluck. We had a great turnout with lots of familiar and some new faces joining together in celebrating plenty of delicious food and a very friendly atmosphere. Special thanks to Arthur Hazboun, Karen Low, Helen Miyake, Chloe and Renzo Mena who under Charlotte's guidance set up the tables, chairs, and decorations for the party. We appreciate everyone who attended and brought in various goodies to share, no one went home hungry. Bob Bond served as our acting President for December and officiated for the party, while Braulio Mena brought in some holiday musical favorites to put us all in the mood. Nick Braemer was instrumental in purchasing the Paphiopedilums (see photo below) from Hawaii which the society gave away as gifts to attending members. Charlotte purchased the poinsettias that were raffled off at the conclusion of the dinner. Braulio Mena donated a beautiful Cookie Jar, which was raffled off. Congratulations to lucky Fe Woods.



Pap. Magic Cherry X (Black Cherry X Voodoo Magic)



Blc. Chunyeah



Blc. Chief Sailing
'Purple'



**December Potluck
Party Pictures**



Monthly checklist for January and February

Cattleya Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

Cymbidium We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30°F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

Lycaste The most glorious of all orchids, Lycaste, will be moving toward their flowering season. Make sure the palm-like leaves do not interfere with the emerging inflorescences. Tying them loosely together often is helpful. Some growers cut the leaves off at the pseudobulb, but this removes part of the attractiveness of this elegant orchid. Resist picking up the plant to inspect those beautiful buds and then setting it down in all different directions as the flower buds will be forced to re-orient themselves to the light source each time and will not open as nicely as they should. Keep plants a little drier during the shorter days.

Odontoglossum Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using *Oncidium* and *Brassia*, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.

Paphiopedilum The standard *Paphiopedilum* *insigne*-derived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot a *paphiopedilum*, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.

Phalaenopsis Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of *phalaenopsis* at orchid shows and sales.

Zygopetalum For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.

OSSC and the AOS thank Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

Orange County Orchid Society

ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION

EVERYONE WELCOME!

CYMBIDIUMS
CATTLEYAS
PHALAENOPSIS
PAPHIOPEDILUMS
DENDROBIUMS
ONCIDIUMS
SPECIES
MANY OTHER GENERA
AND ORCHID SUPPLIES

GOOD VALUES AND LOTS
OF FUN

REFRESHMENTS

Yorba Linda Public Library
Community Room, lower level
18181 Imperial Highway
Yorba Linda, CA 92886



Wednesday
January 16, 2019

6:30 p.m.
Preview



L. anceps var. *lineata*



L. anceps 4N
(*Barkeriana* X *vestalis*
'Figment') First bloom
from raffle table plant



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

upcoming AOS webinars

Cattleya Species Culture

Thursday, January 10, 2019, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM PST. Open to all. Master cattleya grower Bill Rogerson will explain his methods for understanding how to grow cattleyas to perfection. Register now at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6267544326951329539>

Greenhouse Chat

Tuesday, January 29, 2019, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM PST. Open to all. Dr. Ron McHatton will answer your questions about all things orchids. Please send your questions to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by January 24th. Please include pictures as well. Register now at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8715770793699735042>

Note: After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

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

- **January 18, 2019 (3rd Friday)**
- **February 15, 2019 (3rd Friday)**
- **March 15, 2019**

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

**The next board meeting will be
January 22, 2019**

Call 310-326-5405 for more information

**South Coast Botanic
Garden Foundation**

- **January 6** Rose Pruning
Demonstration 1 – 4 PM
- **January 12** Fruit Tree Pruning
Demonstration 1 – 4 PM
- **January 20** Fuschia Pruning and
Propagation Demonstration 2 – 4 PM
- **January 26** Hands on Demonstration
– Fruit Trees Pruning 10 AM– 12 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>



Den. Johnathan's Glory

South Bay Orchid Society Board

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SBOS Committee Chairs

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Refreshments: Helen Miyake310-379-4758
Refreshments : OPEN.....
Ribbon Judging: Charles Brown.....310-377-7083
Property Manager: Ron Henry310-918-9019
Meeting Set-up: OPEN.....
AOS Liaison: Arthur Hazboun.....310-995-1592

“The Inflorescence”
South Bay Orchid Society
c/o Marcy Bergen
23415 Juniper Ave.
Torrance, CA 90505

Our Next Meeting is January 18, 2019

Upcoming Events

January 16, 2019 Orange County Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction Yorba Linda Public Library- Community Room Lower Level 18181 Imperial Hwy. Yorba Linda 6:30 preview

February 8-10, 2019 Newport Harbor Orchid Society Orchid Expo & Sale
Friday 10 AM – 9 PM, Saturday 10 AM – 8 PM, Sunday 11 AM – 6 PM
Westminster Mall, Westminster (2nd level near Penny’s wing)
<http://www.nhosinfo.org/orchidshow>

February 22 – 24, 2019 Pacific Orchid Exposition
Friday & Saturday 9 AM – 6 PM, Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM, County Fair Building
“Hall of Flowers” , 9th & Lincoln, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
<http://orchidsanfrancisco.org/orchid-events/pacific-orchid-expo-poe/>

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