



Lycaste Always Cool
Grown by Larry Bergen

The INFLORESCENSE

“Orchids for Amateurs”

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

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www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com

**Our November 2020 meeting has
been cancelled for your protection**

November President's Message

by Jerri Larsson

Greetings members, friends and all the orchid lovers out there. Thank goodness for our hobby. As the Fall season starts to descend on us along with the confinement that all have been facing, we can say thanks for our hobby. Plenty of time to clean, repot, divide, and enjoy what we love. With the holidays starting to roll around, lets all give thanks for family and friends and hope that all stay healthy and safe during these trying times. They will pass, maybe not a quick as we want, but time does not wait. We are disappointed that we can not have gatherings and that will become a challenge for this coming year. The South Coast Botanical Gardens are in changing and trying time as are we. Say a special thanks to Art for keeping us informed and giving us options to learn and meet with other societies, even if only on a computer or phone screen. Thanks Art.

We would like to say congratulations to the Kulakova family, Ksenia (Kay), on welcoming a new baby girl. A future orchid enthusiast no doubt, we all look forward to seeing her.

This is a short note but I hope that it finds all happy, and not to bored, safe and looking forward to the holiday season. Maybe restrictions will ease and life will slowly get back to normal. Enjoy the people and loved ones around you. Stay safe, wear your masks, it is Halloween anyway!

AOS Awards - What do all Those Letters Mean?

The American Orchid Society grants the following awards to orchids and exhibitors. AOS awards are a recognized measure of quality the world over and coveted by hobbyists and commercial growers alike. An AOS flower quality award adds value to an orchid in its own right, and as a parent for creating hybrids.

HCC (Highly Commended Certificate) Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 75 to 79 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

AM (Award of Merit) Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 80 to 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

FCC (First Class Certificate) The highest flower-quality award, awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 90 points or more on a 100-point scale.

JC (Judges' Commendation) Given for distinctive characteristics that the judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

AD (Award of Distinction) Awarded once to a cross representing a worthy new direction in Breeding. The award is granted unanimously without scoring by the judging team assigned.

AQ (Award of Quality) Awarded once to a cross exhibited by a single individual as a group of not less than 12 plants or inflorescences of different clones of a hybrid or cultivated species. At least one of the inflorescences must receive a flower quality award and the overall quality of the group must be an improvement over the former type.

CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition) Awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest that has received no previous awards. The entire plant must be exhibited. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification supplied by the exhibitor.

CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit) Awarded to a well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification supplied by the exhibitor. (see Taxonomic Authorities)

CCM (Certificate of Cultural Merit) Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must have been in the care of the exhibitor at least 12 months immediately prior to the award and must score between 80 and 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

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CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must have been in the care of the exhibitor at least 12 months immediately prior to the award and must score at least 90 points on a 100-point scale. Plants receiving this award represent the highest level of orchid culture.

For a complete list of the other American Orchid Society Special Annual Awards go to:

<https://www.aos.org/orchid-awards-judging/aos-awards.aspx>



C. (Spring Climax X Christina Waglay) 'Takaki Snow'



Cat. Labiata
Grown by Arthur Hazboun



C. Bowringiana Coerulea



Zygo. Arthur Elle
Grown by David West



Vanda unknown



Blc. California Girl 'Orchid Library'
SM/JOGA Grown by Dr. Bob Streeter

AOS Monthly Checklist for November and December

By Ned Nash and James Rose

Cattleya -- Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening -- hardening -- in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

Cool-Growing Orchids -- One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

Cymbidium -- Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

Oncidium crispum Complex -- This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

Paphiopedilum -- The flowering season for the "toads" or "bulldog" paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. *Paphiopedilums* are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath's rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike

While *paphiopedilums* rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With *paphiopedilums*, especially, "cleanliness is next to godliness" and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

Phalaenopsis -- Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in *phalaenopsis*. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our *phalaenopsis* will not begin to bloom until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

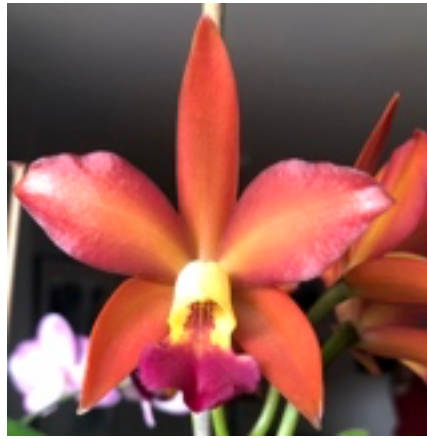
A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a "bloom booster"-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

Vandaceous Genera -- Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.

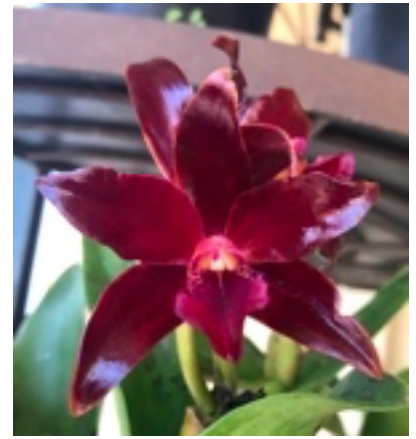
<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/November-december-checklist.aspx>



Miltonia Anne Warne



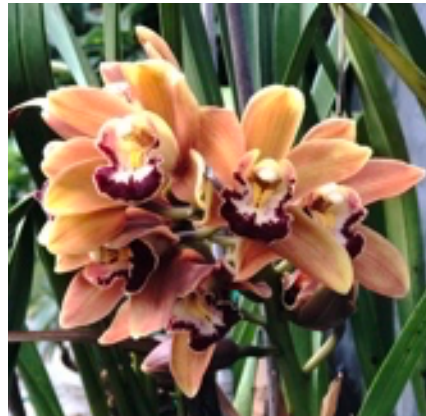
C. Orchidglade X Chocolate Drop



C. Chocolate Drop Volcano Queen



BL. Sea Urchin 'Satin Doll'



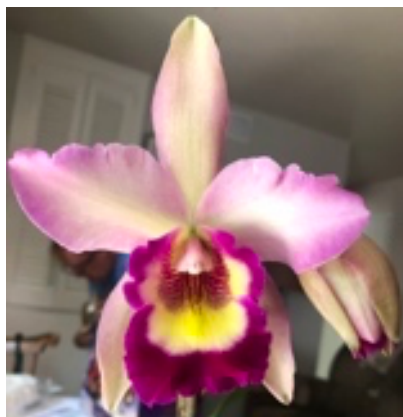
Cym. William Weaver 'Atlantis'
Grown by Larry Bergen



C. King of Taiwan



Milt. Bluntii X Brassia Grildrana



unknown



Onc. Dancing Lady

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

- **CANCELLED TILL 2021**
- ◇ **Cultural sessions start 7PM**
- ◇ **General Meetings start 8PM**

The next board meeting will be decided at a later date

Call 310-539-2538 for more Information

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

A Reminder to Garden Members and Guests

While the Garden remains open as an outdoor venue, all events have been cancelled. Masks and reservations are required. We are strictly adhering to the social distancing rules so we ask that you keep the required physical distance from other visitors. And if you are feeling ill, please postpone your visit.

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://southcoastbotanicgarden.org>

South Bay Orchid Society Board

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Raffle Tickets: Larry Bergen310-326-5405

Refreshments: Helen Miyake.....310-379-4758

Refreshments: OPEN.....

Ribbon Judging: Charles Brown310-377-7083

Property Manager: Ron Henry310-918-9019

Meeting Set-Up: David West562-212-5552

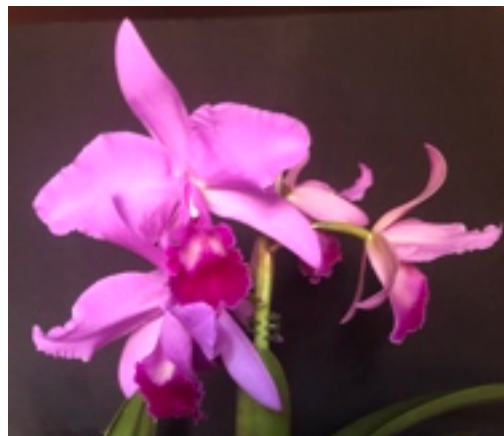
AOS Liaison: Arthur Hazboun310-995-1592

“The Inflorescence”
South Bay Orchid Society
c/o Marcy Bergen
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OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN 2021



C. Mrs. Herbert Greaves



C. Hawaiian Mini Island 'Carmela'

Grown by Larry Bergen

