

### The INFLORESCENSE

"Orchids for Amateurs"

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 3793

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www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com

Our December 2020 meeting has been cancelled for your protection

## December President's Message

## by Charlotte Morrison

In a normal year I would be starting the planning for our holiday party around this time. Unfortunately, as with many special events this year, it has to be cancelled. The garden is not allowing any groups to meet, looking out for our safety. I will miss getting together with you to share your great dishes that you bring and to celebrate our year's accomplishments.

Like many of you I have had extra time these days to spend in my garden. I know my plants have been loving the extra fertilizer, etc., that I have been around to give them. My roses have particularly had a very good year and are still blooming well. I am not so motivated to be outside in the cooler weather, but am enjoying my blooms of all kinds.

There are many resources on the Internet and social media sites where you can get information and learn new things about orchids. We should all be true experts by the time we meet again! If you are on Facebook, check out these groups: Norman's Private Reserve Orchids, Village Green Thumbs, and the American Orchid Society. Lots of sharing of ideas abound. AOS.org is a good website to check out. You can join the society, but even without joining you can access a lot of reference material (check out the All About Orchids tab). They have webinars as well. For instance, on December 2 at 5:30 pm PST, Ron McHatton will be doing a Greenhouse Chat session. You can submit questions ahead of time for this talk. Register on the AOS site in advance if you want to attend.

I wish all of you a happy and very safe holiday season. Please stay well, wear those masks and keep your gatherings small with careful social distancing.

Looking forward to a new and better new year!

### **AOS Cymbidium Culture Sheet**

### sym-BID-ee-um



These orchids are prized for their long-lasting sprays of flowers, used especially as cut flowers or for corsages in the spring. There are two main types of cymbidiums - standards and miniatures. Where summer nights are warm (above 70 F), only miniatures can be recommended, because many are more tolerant of heat and able to flower in warmer weather.

**Light** is important for growing cymbidiums. Coming from cool and bright areas in Asia, they need high light but cool temperatures. In many southern climates, high summer temperatures, especially at night, may prevent the plants from blooming. The maximum amount of light possible, short of burning, should be given to the plants. This means only light shade during the middle of the day, or about 20 percent shade. In cool areas (such as coastal California), full sun is tolerated. Leaves should be a medium to golden green in color, not dark green.

**Temperatures** are another critical factor in flowering standard and miniature cymbidiums. During the summer, standard cymbidiums are usually grown outside in semishade, where day temperatures should be 75 to 85 F (or more), but night temperatures in the late summer to autumn (August to October) must be 50 to 60 F to initiate flower spikes. Optimum temperatures in winter are 45 to 55 F at night and 65 to 75 F during the day. When plants are in bud, temperatures must be as constant as possible, between 55 and 75 F. Miniatures can stand temperatures five to 10 degrees higher than standards and still flower. Most cymbidiums can tolerate light frosts and survive, but this is not recommended. Bring them inside when temperatures dip to 40 F. In mild climates, they can be grown outside year round. A bright and cool location inside is best for winter months.

**Water** to provide a constant supply of moisture to cymbidiums, which are semiterrestrial plants. They generally produce all their vegetative growth during the spring and summer and need the most water during that period. Water heavily during the growth season, keeping the potting material evenly moist. Reduce water when the pseudobulbs complete growing in late summer. Keep barely moist during the winter.

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**Humidity** outdoors is usually sufficient during the summer, except in dry climates, where evaporative cooling in a greenhouse is necessary. Keep humidity at 40 to 60 percent during the winter, especially if plants are in bud. Keep the air moving to prevent fungus (Botrytis) from spotting the flowers.

**Fertilizer** at the proper time to help cymbidiums flower. During the growth season (spring through late summer), high-nitrogen fertilizer (such as 30-10-10) is used. In late summer, use a high-phosphorus, blossom-booster fertilizer (such as 10- 30-20), to help form bloom spikes. Fertilize at full strength every week to two weeks. In winter, fertilize once a month.

**Potting** is usually done in the spring after flowering, usually every two years or when the potting medium decomposes. Shake all of the old potting mix off the roots, dividing the plant if desired. Pick a water-retentive potting mix; medium-grade fir bark with peat moss and perlite is a common mix. Select a pot that will allow for at least two to three years of pseudobulb growth before crowding the pot, while planning on placing the active growing pseudobulb(s) of the division farthest from the side of the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of the mix in the bottom of the pot and fill the container with medium, working it among the roots, tamping firmly. Single backbulbs need not even be placed in mix until new growth and roots are noted. Keep shaded and warm until new growth sprouts, and pot as above.

https://www.aos.org/orchids/culture-sheets/cymbidium.aspx



Cym. Dosido 'Sunset" HCC/AOS B/CSA X Cym. Shasta 'Spice' Grown by Larry Bergen



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Cym. dayanum Grown by Larry Bergen



Cym. Vanessa Amorosi 'Pink Paradise' Grown by David West



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# American Orchid Society

Education. Conservation. Research.

### Webinars:

Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 8:30 pm EST **Greenhouse Chat December 2020** Orchid Q & A with Ron McHatton

**Greenhouse Chat January 2021** Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 8:30 pm EST Register online at AOS.org



Onc. Moon Shadow 'Tiger Tail'
David West



RLAGL Groganiae Larry Bergen



Smb. Brysiana X L. Lookalike Larry Bergen



V. Pachara Delight "Isabella

David West



Fdk. After Dark 'Sunset Valley Orchids ' FCC/AOS Arthur Hazboun



Bllra. Tropic Lily 'Chocolate Drop' Charlotte Morrison



Blc. Pink Empress 'Lakeview' X Slc. Misty Girl X Blc. Goldenzelle 'Cotton Candy' Art



Blc. Yen Corona Green Genie Art Hazboun



Blc. Ann Morning Mem. Robert Strait David West



Lc. Liniata Larry Bergen



Slc. Acker's Romance David West



Blc. Chian-Tzy Salmon Larry Bergen



Lc. Mini Song 'Petite' AM/AOS



Lc. Roseette Warland X C. Chocolate Drop Grown by Larry Bergen



Rlc. Mem. Shirley Byrnes 'NN'



L. anceps 'Marblehall Imperialis' X L. anceps 'Constellation' Larry Bergen



L. anceps Arthur Hazboun



Pot. Little Toshie 'Gold Country' AM/AOS Art Hazboun



C. Labiata alba X sib David West



Slc. Hsin Buu 'Y. T.' Larry Bergen



Pot. Hsinying Pink Doll 'Hsinying' Larry Bergen

# 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 310-316-8193 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

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SBOS Committee Chairs
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Refreshments: Helen Miyake310-379-4758
Refreshments: OPEN
Ribbon Judging: Charles Brown310-377-7083
Property Manager: Ron Henry310-918-9019
<b>Meeting Set-Up:</b> 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**







Paph. Magic Lantern L. Purpurata Summer bloomers grown by Larry Bergen



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