



Blc. Love Blush X Blc. Fantasy Love
'Splish Splash' Grown by Larry Bergen

The INFLORESCENCE

"Orchids for Amateurs"

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 3793

Torrance , CA 90510-3793

www.SouthBayOrchidSociety.com

May 2021

May President's Message

by Larry Bergen

Welcome to Spring 2021. It is time to celebrate the beginning of a year of growing. As we start each day we can listen to the songs of the birds, enjoy of warmth of the longer days, and marvel at the growth and development of our plants. It is time to look at our cymbidiums. As the old flower spikes die off, they need to be removed. We can determine if the plant may continue in its pot, or if it has grown too large it may need to moved into a larger pot. You may also choose to divide the plant into multiple pots. If you decide to repot your cymbidium you may find that you have unneeded back bulbs. If this is the case, you may discard the bulbs or you can choose to create a new plant. You can do this by putting the back bulb into a gallon size ziplock bag with about 1/8 of a cup of water. Be sure to include a name tag for the plant. Then put the bag in a brown paper bag and place the paper bag in a dark area such as your garage. In a few months you should see new growths developing from the back bulb. You may then repot and enjoy your new cymbidium. Or if you choose, you could donate your new plant to one of your neighbors and invite them to come and join the society.

Also as spring is upon us, those pesky bugs are reemerging. For the cymbidiums, I find that scale is one of my biggest problems. At this time, I spray my cymbidiums with neem oil. For my other genera, the insects will also look at the new growth as a delicious meal. I treat my other orchids with Ferti-lome. I spray now and then every two weeks for the rest of the month. Hopefully my insect issue will be under control. I also check to see if repotting or upsizing is appropriate. This is a very exciting time of year. I cannot wait to see all of my orchids in bloom. Then if the mayor and governor decide to reopen things, maybe we will be able to meet in the near future and share all of these wonderful blooms. I look forward to seeing everyone.

AOS Monthly Checklist for May and June

Cattleya - The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.

Paphiopedilum - The *Paphiopedilum Maudiae* types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in *Paphiopedilum fairrieanum*-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.

Phalaenopsis - Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on *Doritis* background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season.

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Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

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

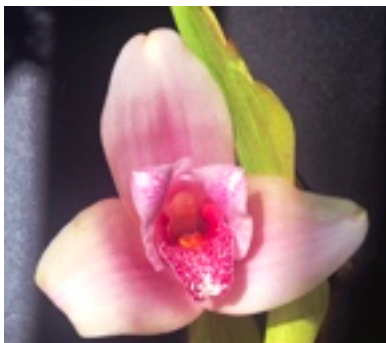


American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

Upcoming Webinars

Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton Tuesday, May 4th 8:30 PM EST
open to everyone Send in your questions and pictures by May 2nd.

Prosthechea karwinskii in Mexico - Julia Douglas Orchid conservation
in Mexico AOS Members only
Thursday, May 13th 8:30 PM EST

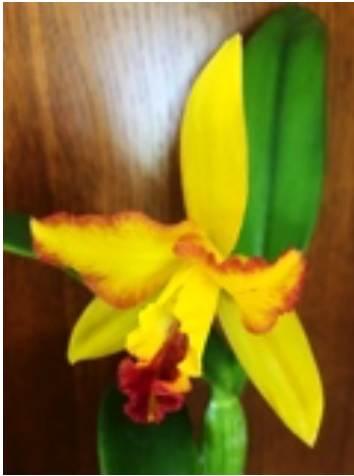


Lyc. Shonan Beat (John Ezzy 'Pink Star') X Chita Melody 'Rits'
Grown by Larry Bergen



Lycaste Chorus
Grown by Larry Bergen

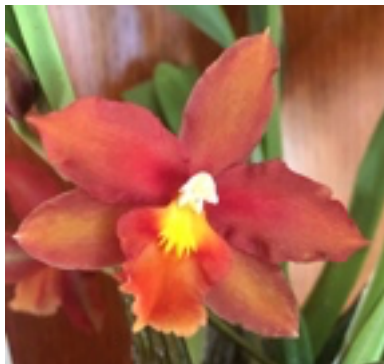
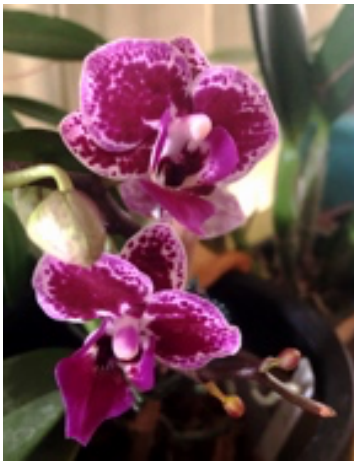
Grown by Leslie Ogg



Slc. Fordyce Fantasy
'SVO Best' X Blc. Guess
What 'SVO' AM /AOS



Hatfield cymbidium zygo
X Blue Boy



Wils. Siamese Red
"Jamaica Nice"

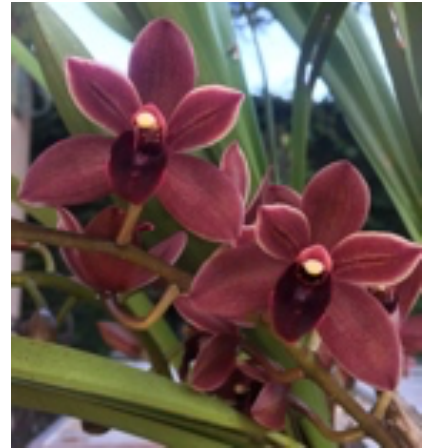
Grown by David West



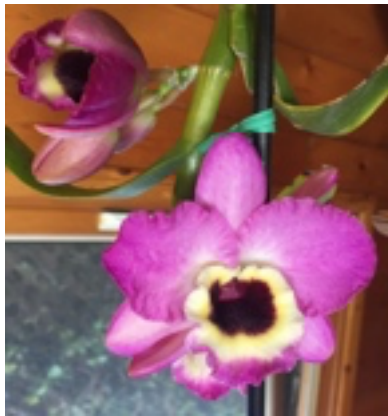
Rhyncholaelia Aristocrat



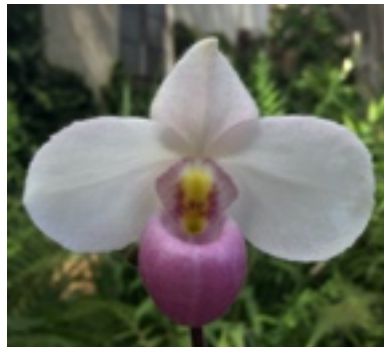
Dtps. Green Field
Valentine X Dtps.
Chain Xen Pearl



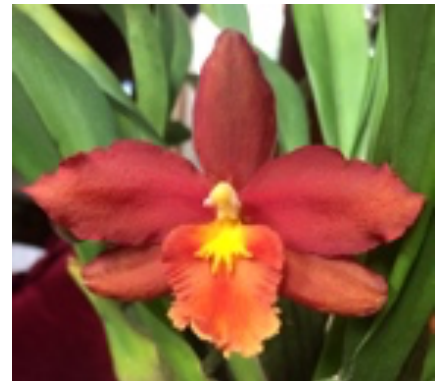
Cym. Phar lap 'Agua
Caliente' X Suave 'Sweetie'



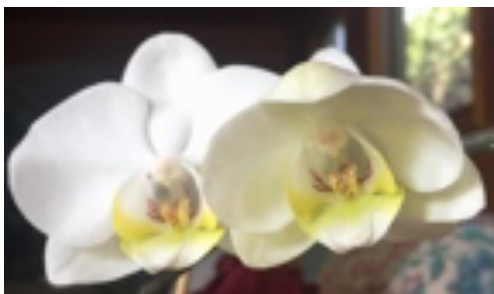
Den. Angel Love 'Vivid'



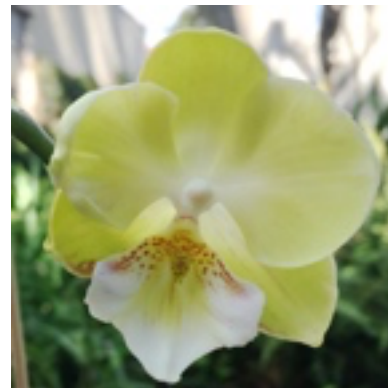
Paph. delenatii 'Tiffany' X
delenatii 'Colorama'



Wils. Siamese Red
'Jamaica Nice'



Phal. Gan Lin Rabbit



Phal. Young Home
Beauty Golden

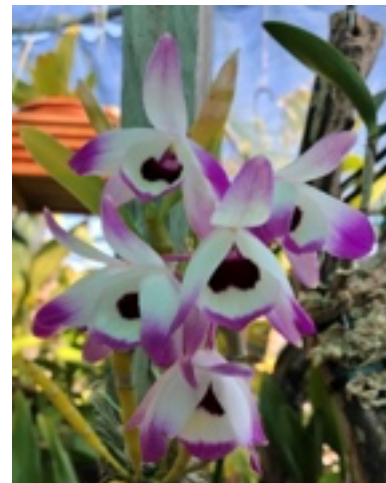
Grown by Arthur Hazboun



Den. Speciosum
Var. Alba



Den. Country Girl
'Warabeauta'



Den. Nobile



L Zip 'Ship Shape' X Lc.
Trick or Treat 'Orange
Magic'

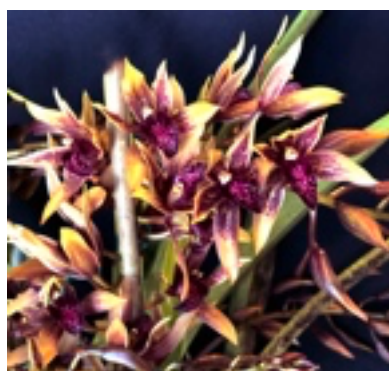


Bifrenaria harrisoniae



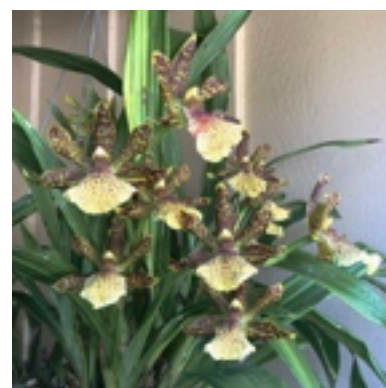
Mtssa. C.M.Fitch X
Odcm. Blackberry
'Hawaii'

Grown by Larry Bergen



Cym. First Dance 'Salsa' X
Canallaulatum BT

Zygo. AGWA Kiwi Gold
'Nugget'



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 310-326-5405 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

Acting President: Larry Bergen.....310-326-5405

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

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DWEST562 AT CHARTER DOT NET

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RJS.GES AT GTE DOT NET

SBOS Committee Chairs

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

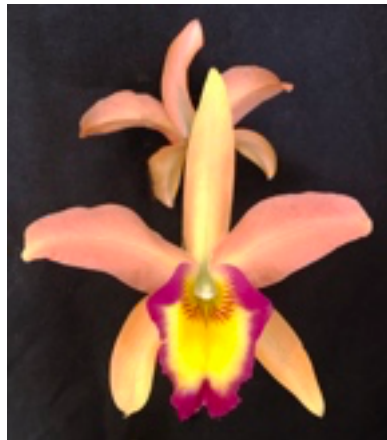
AOS Liaison: Arthur Hazboun310-995-1592

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

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN 2021



Lc. Melado Huerta
Senor Perfecto



Lc. Tropical Song
'Tango' X L. anceps
'Gigas'



Lc. Little Sunset

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