



San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

Bulletin

December Meeting
Thursday, December 19, 2013
7:30 pm Plant Judging
8:00 pm General Meeting



Seasons'
Greetings

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Arcadia, CA 91066
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Parliamentarian
Vacant**

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Our regular meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden,
Lecture Hall, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia

Orchid Winter Rest

Orchids grow more slowly in winter and will need less water and fertilizer. Most growers cut their fertilizer back to twice a month at half strength. Monitor orchids to keep them at their proper moisture level for their type. Generally, orchids will need about half as much water in winter as they do in summer. Some orchids must have a dry winter rest in order to flower.

With the end of the flowering season for most orchid plants and with potting under control, the grower finds next that all orchids need a resting period—some going into such deep rest or dormancy that they appear dead. In a state of nature this rest is provided by the change of seasons. It will be found that those plants requiring a long spell of complete rest in the greenhouse come from regions where long periods of hot wind occur. During such times these plants shrivel and dry, giving no sign of life. In the native habitat of many orchids these extremely dry seasons will be followed by torrential rains, during which the plant awakens and puts forth new growth that will culminate in bloom.

This slideshow presentation will show you which plants need a partial rest or a complete dry rest.

Plant Opportunity Table

The plant opportunity table will be provided by H&R Nursery and Dick Lundine's Collection.

Treasurer's Message

All checks written to our society must state "San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Inc." on *The Pay To The Order* line.

2013 ANNUAL AWARD WINNERS

Species	Members Name
	1 st Dann Dunst
	2 nd Brandon Tam
	3 rd Ken Fujimoto
Cattleyas	
	1 st Y.S. Farn
	2 nd Jim Gomes
	3 rd S&D Lundine
Mini-Cattleyas	
	1 st Jim Gomes
	2 nd Greg Orozco
	3 rd S&D Lundine
Cymbidiums	
	1 st Y.S. Farn
	2 nd Ken Fujimoto
	3 rd Nata Ruiz
Novelty Cyms	
	1 ^s Una Yeh
	2 nd Alan Del Castillo
	3 rd Greg Orozco
Dendrobiums	
	1 st Alan Castillo
	2 nd Kay Hudspeth
	2 nd S&D Lundine
	2 nd Toby Luong
	3 rd Tuan Ngo
Oncidiums	
	1 st Alyce Griffith
	1 st Daraline Squyres
	2 nd Jim Gomes
	3 rd Alan Del Castillo
	3 rd Una Yeh
Paph & Phrags	
	1 st Brandon Tam
	2 nd Alan Del Castillo
	3 rd Dann Dunst
Phalaenopsis	
	1 st Jan Pluim
	2 nd Jim Gomes
	2 nd Alyce Griffith
	2 nd Irene Sriboonwong
	3 rd S&D Lundine
Vandaceous	
	1 st Dann Dunst
	2 nd Anna Plewinski
	2 nd Jan Pluim
	3 rd Linda Peterson
Other Genera	
	1 st Dann Dunst
	2 nd Y.S. Farn
	3 rd Una Yeh

All Around Winners

1 st	Jim Gomes
2 nd	Y.S. Farn
3 rd	Una Yeh

Awards Dinner

A good time, good food, and excellent friendly company was had by the members and guests that attended. The social hour was just that, with many conversations taking place, some sipping a beverage of their choice.

The society purchased plants from H & R Nursery in Hawaii for each member that attended. The 1st place for overall total points accumulated all year for all genera was Jim Gomes. Points are awarded for the winning plants at our monthly judging. See the winners to the left and above for overall. Jim Gomes was the recipient of the Hester Hulme Memorial Service Award. The award is given for his contributions throughout the year.

The food was delicious, the Society furnished Lasagnas, Pizzas, and drinks. The potluck was a sumptuous array of many tasty dishes with enough left over for seconds.

Overall it was a very delightful evening.

2014

Membership Dues

Pay your dues for 2014 now while you think of it. Dues are still only \$20.00. Dues are for calendar year 2014 January – December). Please make your check out to “San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Inc.” and mail it to, PO Box 660111, Arcadia, CA 91066 or bring it to the next meeting.

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN

Anyone interested in advertising in the SGVOH Bulletin should contact **Greg Orozco** at g.orozco3400@att.net for prices and information.

Bulletin Deadline: Those wishing to place announcements in the bulletin should get the information to the editor, **Jim Gomes** (626)577-7220 or jim.gomes@att.net, by the Friday following the fourth Thursday of the month.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (CONT.)

AOS Rep.
Greg Orozco
O.D. Repts
Brenda Ward
Arboretum Rep.
Greg Orozco
Huntington Rep.
Brandon Tam
Southland Rep.
Dann Dunst
Banquet
Vacant
House
Tuan Ngo
How-To Sessions
Greg Orozco
Librarian
Jeff Brandt
Photographer
Brandon Tam
Plant Forum
Vacant
Publicity
Irene Sriboonwong
Raffle Ticket Sales
Gordon Quan
Ribbon Judging
Greg Orozco
Roster
Jim Gomes
Silent Auction
Toby Luong
Displays
Greg Orozco

Membership Welcome Message

There were 42 in attendance.

Monthly Checklist for November and December

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.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 7 - 8
Casa de las Orquideas
Annual Open House

9 a.m to 4 p.m.
170 S. Nardo Ave.
Solana Beach, CA 92075
www.orquideas.com

December 7 - 8
Sunset Valley Orchids
Annual Open House

1255 Navel Place
Vista, CA 92081
(760) 310-0778
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

December 7 - 8
Andy's Orchids
Open House

734 Ocean View Ave
Encinitas CA 92024
(888) 514-2639
www.andysorchids.com

February 7 - 9
Newport Harbor Orchid Expo 2014
"Orchid Paradise"

Westminster Mall
1025 Westminster Mall
Westminster, CA

February 15 - 16
South Bay Orchid Society
"Orchid Show & Sale"

Torrance Cultural Arts Center
3330 Civic Center Drive
Torrance, CA 90503
www.southbayorchidsociety.com/Show/index.html



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December 19
Orchid Winter
Rest