



San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

Bulletin

June Meeting
Thursday, June 20, 2013
7:30 PM Plant Judging
8:00 PM General Session

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

GENERAL MEETING: GLEN DECKER **OWNER OF PIPING ROCK ORCHIDS** **"PAPHS & PHARGS"**

Glen Decker began growing orchids at the age of 15. Decker holds the degree of Associate in Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture. He is presently the owner of Piping Rock Orchids www.pipingrockorchids.com, chairman of the American Orchid Society's Publications Committee, and contributes his time to the NYIOS booklet publication. He has also contributed a chapter on slipper orchids in the New York Botanical Garden's publication "The Best Orchids for Indoors". Decker has won numerous AOS awards for his plants as well as the W.W. Wilson Award, the Nax Trophy and the Butterworth Prize.

In 2004 Glen Decker and a few other hardy souls trekked through the Peruvian jungles searching for the controversial and elusive Phrag. kovachii. Come hear whether or not they found it and what happened once they did. It'll illuminate you as to the state of conservation and economics in the world today.

Plant Opportunity Table

The plant table for this month will be provided by SGVOH. Don't forget to get your tickets?

2013 Fern & Exotic Plant Show and Sale

They are having their annual show and sale on June 8th – June 9th. Greg will put in a display table at the show and we will need a few volunteers to man the display and hand out flyers about the society. The show is Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The first shift on Saturday and Sunday would be 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the second shift would be 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Any members interested, please contact Greg Orozco 714-928-0413 or Jim Gomes 626-577-7220.

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Arcadia, CA 91066
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WWW.SGVOH.ORG

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Joe Vargas

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Vacant

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SGVOH Annual Orchid Auction

Our Annual Fundraiser was very organized this year. Much preplanning by our board members and many society volunteers produced a successful undertaking which enriched our treasury. We were quite pleased with such a variety of beautiful hybrids and species donated by vendors and club members. Many plants were in full bloom. A total of forty-two paddles were issued.

Vendors donate, not usually out of the goodness of their hearts, but because they see it as an investment in us. They expect that they will get a **'return on investment'** by having us make purchases from them. **When we make a purchase from a donor vendor, it is essential that we identify ourselves as members of San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists and thank them for their donations to the society.** Thank you letters were given to vendors that donated and acknowledgement shall be posted on our SGVOH website and listed on the insert in the Bulletin.

Remember that a successful auction depends upon an excellent array of plants, strong auctioneers, and many hours of donated time, and interested bidders. We all owe our greatest thanks to our excellent auctioneer, member **Peter Lin**. He did an excellent job of insuring that the flow went smoothly and fairly.

Prior to the auction itself, we were fortunate to have **Lucy Arlotti, Jim Gomes, Charles Hardman, Greg Orozco, Kay Hudspeth, Irene Sriboonwong, and Joe Vargas** collect donations from vendors. We would also like to thank member donors for the excellent plants they donated: **Paul Chou, Ken Fujimoto, Jim Gomes, Charles Hardman, Kay Hudspeth, Dick Lundine, Toby Luong, Greg Orozco, Anna Plewinski, Gordon Quan, Peter & Lynn Sartin, Joe Vargas, and Una Yeh. Also non-member Mary Anne Huetting.**

Of course at the auction itself, we had a myriad of member-workers doing just about anything and everything possible, from receiving plant donations, registering bidders, logging sales, carting plants everywhere, and the list goes on and on. Thanks to all of you who helped in so many ways. It is hoped that the non-participating society members appreciate these actions and recognize that we always need volunteers in order to keep our society healthy and functioning in a manner that benefits all club members.

Thanks to all of you for making our 2013 Auction a SUCCESS.

“Masquerade”



It's time to start planning what we want to do for this year's display for the Southland Orchid Show.

Again, we will be asking for your help with the display and hopefully we will all have some plants in bloom at that time. The last time we had a display we had a great turnout of volunteers, plants, and won “Best Theme Award”.

We will have a sign up sheet at the next meeting for all that wish to participate, so please sign up and help us win another award this year.

Thanks Greg

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (CONT.)

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

2013 Roster Update

A supplement insert to our Roster will be made available at our next meeting. Please see Membership Chair, Dann Dunst for your copy.

Membership Message Welcome

We had 55 in attendance for the auction.

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.

Vendors Supporting SGVOH 2013 Annual Auction

Remember them when you shop,
Mention you are a member of *San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists*,
& **Thank** them so they will continue their support

Andy's Orchids
www.andysorchids.com

Blossom Supplies
www.blossomproducts.com

Cal-Orchids, Inc.
www.calorchid.com

Calwest Tropical Supplies
www.calwesttropical.com

Casa de las Orquideas
www.orquideas.com/index.html

Granite Hills Orchids
www.granitehillsorchids.com

Greg Allikas
www.orchidworks.com

Hatfields
www.hatfieldsorchids.com

**Huntington Library & Botanical
Gardens**
www.huntington.org

Kalapana Tropicals
www.kalapanatropicals.com

Los Angeles County Arboretum
www.arboretum.org

Maril Products
www.physan.com

Mariposa Garden
www.mariposagarden.com

Normans Orchids
www.orchids.com

Orchids by Art
www.orchidsbyart.blogspot.com

OrchidWiz
www.orchidwiz.com

R.F. Orchids, Inc.
www.rforchids.com

Rex Foster Orchids
www.rexfosterorchids.com

San Gabriel Nursery
www.sgnurserynews.com/site

Santa Barbara Orchid Estates
www.sborchid.com

Sunset Valley Orchids
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

Westerlay Orchids
www.westerlayorchids.com

SGVOH 2013 Auction



At the front, Auctioneer Peter Lin



Plenty of Plants



Recorders at work



Members & Guests



Peter, Irene, Brandon, and Greg

Summer Time is Coming

Summer presents challenges in the form of increased pest activity, fungal and bacterial problems in traditionally wet areas and desiccation in those areas with Mediterranean-like climates where summers are typically quite dry. Observation is the watchword for the summer months. Careful observation of your plants is the best way to identify small problems before they become big problems and in the summer, the time between these two events is dramatically shorter due to higher temperatures --- the earlier you catch a problem, the easier it is to control.

Pest Control

For small collections, the best thing to do is to physically wipe insects off and clean the plant. Isopropyl alcohol and a cotton swab are very effective against most pests and if you want to increase its effectiveness, a drop of Ivory dishwashing liquid added to the alcohol helps wet the typically waxy surface of orchid leaves. If you haven't been watching carefully and the infestation gets out of control, you might have to use chemicals. Few pesticides are specifically rated for use on orchids but you can use any that are labeled for ornamentals. Use care and follow the label directions. This is NOT a situation where if a little is good, more will be better!

In areas with dry summers, mites can be a serious problem especially on phalaenopsis. These creatures attack the surface of the leaves producing a sort of rough, silvery appearance. Mites are not insects and insecticides offer little or no control. Mites do not like humid conditions so efforts to increase humidity are beneficial. Light infestations can be controlled by thoroughly cleaning plants but in hot, dry climates light infestations rapidly become serious and control is best accomplished by the use of a miticide.

Dry summer areas

The bane of orchid growers in these areas is extremely low humidity and this leads to two issues. The first of these is an increase in the rate at which plants dry out and the other is the ever-present mite issue. Orchids in dry summer areas dry out much more rapidly than they did in the winter. Depending on temperature, plants watered every two weeks in the winter may need to be watered every few days in the summer. Here again, nothing will take the place of careful observation. If you have an extensive collection of plants, you might want to consider installing a misting system similar to those used in open-air restaurants in dry areas. Low pressure units that install on hose lines are inexpensive and work reasonably well to raise humidity as well as cool the growing area somewhat.

Summer sun - how does that affect orchids

Solar radiation is much more intense in the summer and plants that have been happily in full sun all winter may need a little extra protection (shade) when the sun is the strongest or, often during the late afternoon when the temperatures are highest. Orchids are easily sunburned and you should take care when moving plants around, especially if you are moving plants grown inside during the winter to a spot outside for the summer. Sunburn, while not in itself a serious problem is irreversible and will make your plants look ugly. In serious cases the plant can be killed outright and any leaf damage is an invitation to a secondary infection in the damaged area. Orchid foliage should be a light yellow-green. The first sign of too much light is often yellow foliage. If left alone, this yellow foliage will eventually turn white and then dark brown and dry as the sunburned area dries out. If the problem is caught before the chlorophyll has been completely destroyed it is often possible to reverse the damage. Once white spots or sunken areas have appeared, the damage is irreversible and the best thing one can do is stop further progression with more shade.

Capitalizing on the high-growth season

Because of the increased light and temperatures, your plants will benefit from more fertilizer (increased frequency NOT concentration). This is especially true for those varieties that put out new growth during this time. Avoid fertilizers that contain significant amounts of urea. Urea requires soil organisms to convert it to forms useable by orchids and the process liberates significant amounts of acid. If you are growing in a predominantly inorganic media like rock or aliflor, soil organisms aren't prevalent and these media have poor buffering capacity. If you are growing in fir bark media, as the medium ages, it naturally becomes more acidic and less able to buffer the pH shifts caused by metabolism of urea.

Plants will also dry out faster and to avoid root damage, water your plants first before fertilizing. This way the roots will be wet and much less easily damaged by the salts in the fertilizer solution.

If you grow your plants inside during the cooler months, moving them outside for the summer is very often a "shot in the arm" and your plants will respond with renewed vigor. There's something about natural air movement, humidity and rainfall that just can't be duplicated indoors. Just remember, make the transition slowly. Place them under very heavy shade for a few days, then somewhat less shade for a few days and then move them to their summer homes paying careful attention to the color of the foliage. You'll be glad you did.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 8

Orchid Digest Speaker Day

"Wonderful World of Orchids"

The Huntington Library & Botanical Gardens
San Marino, CA
562-431-1247

June 8 - 9

2013 Fern & Exotic Plant Show and Sale

The Arboretum of Los Angeles County
301 North Baldwin Ave
Arcadia, CA
www.laifs.org

July 12 - 14

Santa Barbara Orchid Estates

Open House

1250 Orchid Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
www.sborchid.com

July 12 - 14

Cal Orchids

Open House

1251 Orchid Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
www.calorchid.com

The next **Board Meeting** will be held at 7 PM on **Thursday, June 27**, at the LA County Arboretum. Board members unable to attend should notify **Jim Gomes** ((626) 577-7220 or jim.gomes@att.net).



San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists

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June 20

Glen Decker

Paphs and Phrags

