



San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

Bulletin

March Meeting
Thursday, March 20, 2014
7:30 pm Ribbon Judging
8:00 pm General Meeting

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: Dann Dunst “Growing Pleurothallids”

Dann will discuss the challenges of growing Pleurothallids in Inland Areas, especially that of temperature and humidity. His program will include all the cultural aspects of growing Pleurothallids, some suggestions for beginners, as well as unique photographs of many Pleurothallid species, that he has taken himself.

Dann has two greenhouses, one warm growing and one cool growing, and has been growing orchids for many years. His interest in orchids started with Cymbidiums, and then he gradually added a collection of Vanda, Miltonia, Paps and Phrags. and of-course the Plueorthallids in which he currently has over 150 plants of that genera - mostly Masdevallia and Dracula. Dann says when he first saw a Masdevallia he thought it was some kind of a “space plant,” and immediately fell in love with them, but soon realized the challenges of growing them in Inland areas. Always up for a challenge, he set up a cool growing greenhouse and the rest is history.

Dann is a past President of the RSBCOS, current Treasurer of the SOSC Committee, (you may have noticed his Masdevallia Display at the last SOSC show), past District Director of the Palms to Pines District of the CGCI, and currently serving as your Membership Chairman and new Board member. He attended the World Orchid Conference in Miami Florida in 2008 and WOC in Singapore in 2011.

Dann is a retired middle school teacher, and aside from raising orchids, maintains several aviaries where he keeps exotic species of pheasants, doves, finches, starlings and other softbills

Plant Opportunity Table

The plant table for this month will be provided by **Dann Dunst**. Don't forget to get your raffle tickets!

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FEBRUARY PLANT JUDGING

Species	Plant Name	Owners Name
Cultural:		
1 st	Brassavola Grandiflora	David Campen
2 nd	Sophronctis Coccinea 'Home for Christmas'	Alan Del Castillo
3 rd	Restrepia Angustilabia	Dann Dunst
Hon.	C. Dolosa Alba	David Campen
Cattleyas		
Cultural:	Blc. Orange Treat	Jim Gomes
1 st	Blc. Pamela Heatherington 'Coronation' FCC/AOS	Una Yeh
2 nd	Blc. Success Dream 'Mirayles'	Irene Sriboonwong
3 rd	Unknown	Y.S. Farn
Hon.	Blc Clown Snow 'Hawaii'	Irene Sriboonwong
Cattleyas Mini		
Cultural:		
Hon.		
Cymbidium		
Cultural:	Cym. Pistachioman "Geyserland"	Y.S. Farn
1 st	Cym. Unknown	Y.S. Farn
2 nd	Cym. Pink Champagne x Lena Bauer	Y.S. Farn
3 rd		
Cymbidium- Novelty		
Cultural:	Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'	Lynn McIlwain
1 st	Cym. Honey Bunny 'Sweet Bell'	Alan Del Castillo
2 nd	Cym. Dag 'Dorothy'	Loby Luong
3 rd	Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade'	Alan Del Castillo
Dendrobiums		
Cultural:	Den. Specia-Kingianum 'Crysta'	Toby Luong
1 st	Den. (Gilliston Jazz x Zip SVO Intense) x Den. Speciosum	Toby Luong
2 nd	Den. Star of River Denes	Gordon Quan
3 rd	Den. (Specia-Kingianum) x Den Gracilicarle'	Toby Luong
Hon.	Den. Gillieston Gold	Charles Hardman
Oncidiums		
1 st	Tolunia Gentin Angel (Pink)	Una Yeh
2 nd	Tolunia Gentin Angel (Yellow)	Una Yeh
3 rd		
Paph & Phrags		
Cultural:	Paph. Unknown	Alyce Griffith
1 st	Paph. Magic Glen x gratrixianum	Brenda Ward
2 nd	Ppaph. Risque 'Delight' x Menthe Au Lait 'Pure Vanilla'	Brenda Ward
3 rd	Paph. Sizzler x (Night Sky x Thunder Bay)	Brenda Ward
Std. Phals		
Cultural:		
Mini Phals		
2 nd		
Vandaceous		
Cultural:		
1 st	V. Lamellata	Ken Fujimoto
Other Genera		
Cultural:		
1 st	Psychopsis	Kay Hudspeth
2 nd	Epi. Renee Marquez 'Flame Thrower'	Kay Hudspeth
3 rd	Coel. Cristata	Una Yeh
Hon.	Epi. Polybulbon	Tuan Ngo

SGVOH AUCTION MAY 15TH

We depend upon the funds we raise at the Auction to **help support meeting costs for the year** (speaker's fees, plant table, and room rental. As you go through your orchids, **please begin to identify those divisions that would be great donations to our auction.** With 'Show Time' this month in Southern California, you know you need to be generating a bit more room in your growing area for those lovely new plants you will buy.

Put May 15th on your calendar and begin inviting your friends and family to join you at this fun event. What a great way to introduce them to the myriad of orchids available at Low, Low prices!

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (CONT.)

AOS Rep.
Greg Orozco
O.D. Reps
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
Photographers
Jim Gomes
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

2014 Membership Dues

Pay your news for 2014 now while you think of it. Dues are still only \$20.00. You can mail your check for \$20.00 payable to San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Inc., PO Box 660111, Arcadia, CA 91066 or bring it to the next meeting.

Membership Welcome Message

We would like welcome new member **Pantea Bionki**. We had 43 members and 5 guests in attendance for the February 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.

Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy.

The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 10

**Long Beach Amateur Orchid Society
Annual Orchid Auction**

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall
6201 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA
www.lbaos.com

March 14 - 16

**69th Santa Barbara Intl. Orchid Show
"Complements and Contrasts"**

Earl Warren Showgrounds
Highway 101 and Las Positas Road
Santa Barbara, CA

March 21 - 23

**San Diego County Orchid Society
"A Symphony of Orchids"
2014 Show & Sale**

Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA

March 22

**Riverside-San Bernardino Counties
Orchid Society**

Annual Orchid Auction

Plymouth Village – Lower Level
900 Salem Drive
Redlands, CA 92373

March 28, 29, 30

**Orchids by Art
Open House and Sale**

Time: 9am to 5pm
16057 Nordhoff St., North Hills, CA 91343
Cell- 818-903-4073; Home-818-893-2987
Refreshments will be served.

April 5

**San Diego County Cymbidium Society
Annual Orchid Auction**

Lake San Marcos – Lake Pavilion
1105 La Bonita Drive
San Marcos, CA 92078

The next **Board Meeting** will be held at 7 PM on **Thursday, March 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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March 20, 2014

Dann Dunst

Growing Pleurothallids

