



# San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

## Bulletin

**September Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 17, 2015**  
**7:00 PM – Ribbon Judging**  
**7:30 PM – General Meeting**

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

### **GENERAL MEETING: HARRY PHILLIPS** **“MOUNTED ORCHIDS; FACTS & FANTASY”**

Harry Phillips was born in San Diego, California on July 9, 1953. His Father taught him to appreciate plants at an early age. In January of 1963 Harry's brother Andy (of Andy's Orchids fame) was born, and six years later is when it all started. They were both exposed to exotic plants and flowers at an early age, but when Andy became interested and later obsessed with orchids, Harry somehow resisted becoming involved with them for as long as he could. He assisted Andy in his passion by building his first two green houses, and Andy would reward him with a hybrid that was in bloom, tell him to bring it back when it goes out of bloom, and exchange it for one in bloom. Well this would only last about a year until he decided that he wanted to keep one and get it to re-bloom, the beginning of the end.

In 1986 Harry, with his soon to be wife Leslie moved with Andy and his orchid collection to Encinitas, California. Being constantly exposed to all of Andy's orchids was beginning to have an effect on Harry. Shortly after, Andy left for four months for Costa Rica, and placed Harry in charge of the collection. When Andy returned he found that Harry had not killed too many plants and managed to become even more addicted. Andy, now feeling more confident about leaving his orchid collection under Harry's care, began to plan a cycling trip through South America which ended up lasting two years. After that it was all over for Harry, he was completely addicted to orchids.

Harry assisted Andy part time, with the beginnings of Andy's Orchids, for 10 years while holding a full time job to pay the mortgage, going full time in November of 1998. His passion in orchids is in the genera Sobralia and Eleanthus, but you ask him at any particular time of the year which is his favorite orchid, it will most likely be the one or ones in bloom at that time. He has traveled in Mexico the Caribbean, Ecuador and Fiji viewing orchids in the wild. Harry believes that growing epiphytic orchids the way they grow in nature is best and the orchids seem to agree. He will share with you his experiences with growing mounted orchids, and would like to dispel the fantasy that growing mounted orchids is difficult.

### **Plant Opportunity Table**

The plant table for this month will be provided by **Andy's Orchids**. Don't forget to get your tickets! (<http://www.andysorchids.com/>).

P.O. Box 660111  
Arcadia, CA 91066  
WEBSITE:  
**WWW.SGVOH.ORG**

#### **OFFICERS**

##### **PRESIDENT**

**Lana Tripathi**  
tripathil@hotmail.com  
(909) 949-0806

##### **VICE PRESIDENT**

**Jim Gomes**  
jim.gomes@att.net  
(626) 818-1859

##### **SECRETARY**

**David Campen**  
dcampen@earthlink.net  
(626) 447-1870

##### **TREASURER**

**Lucy Arlotti**  
arlotti@earthlink.net  
(626) 309-9811

##### **PAST PRESIDENT**

**Irene Sriboonwong**

##### **DIRECTORS**

Dann Dunst  
Aaron Estrada  
Toby Luong  
Greg Orozco  
Linda Peterson  
Una Yeh

##### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

###### **Parliamentarian**

Dann Dunst

###### **Membership**

Dann Dunst  
dann@aol.com

###### **Webmaster**

Jim Gomes  
jim.gomes@att.net

###### **Hospitality**

Open

###### **Bulletin Editor**

Jim Gomes  
jim.gomes@att.net

## AUGUST PLANT JUDGING

Species	Plant Name	Owners Name
Cultural:	Masd. floribunda	Dann Dunst
1 <sup>st</sup>	B. nodosa	Jim Gomes
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dracula nyterire	Dann Dunst
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Dracula nightshade	Dann Dunst
Hon.	Masd. dimorphotriche	Dann Dunst
Cattleyas		
Cultural:	C. Hummingbird 'Country Acres' HCC/AOS	Greg Orozco
1 <sup>st</sup>	Lc. CG Roebling	Una Yeh
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Lc. Lo's Long Tone 'African Beauty'	Y.S. Farn
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Blc. Cornerstone 'Yuan Gui'	Y.S. Farn
Hon.	Lc. Laurie Lynn Westenberger	Jim Gomes
Cattleyas Mini		
Cultural:	Bc. Sunny Delight	Jim Gomes
1 <sup>st</sup>	Slc. Good Splash 'Bud'	Jim Gomes
2 <sup>nd</sup>	C. Loddigesii	Una Yeh
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Blc. Hwa Yuan Moon x Blc. Chunyeh	Una Yeh
Cymbidium		
1 <sup>st</sup>		
Cymbidium-Noveltly		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Cym. Golden Elf 'Sundust' HCC/AOS	Toby Luong
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cym. dayanum	Una Yeh
Dendrobiums		
Cultural:		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Den. Victoria Reginae	Jim Gomes
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Den. Silver King	Jim Gomes
3 <sup>rd</sup>		
Hon.		
Oncidiums		
Cultural:	Onc. Altissimum	Aaron Estrada
1 <sup>st</sup>	Onc. Mini	Y.S. Farn
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Onc. Tolumnia 'Stun Gun'	Dann Dunst
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Onc. Mule Ears	Jim Gomes
Hon.	Onc. Maui Gold 'Polido'	Una Yeh
Paph & Phrags		
Cultural:		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Paph. Armeni	Gordon Quan
2 <sup>nd</sup>		
Std. Phals		
1 <sup>st</sup>		
Mini Phals		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Phal. Sogo Yenlin x Phal. Happy Mark	Y.S. Farn
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dtps. Firecracker 'Malibu'	Jim Gomes
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Phal. Unknown	Una Yeh
Vandaceous		
Cultural:		
1 <sup>st</sup>	V. Pure's Wax	Gordon Quan
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dar. Charm 'Blue Star' x V. falcata 'Tamakongo'	Una Yeh
3 <sup>rd</sup>		
Hon.		
Other Genera		
Cultural:	Enc. Alatum 'SVO' x Enc. Cashen's Brown Sugar 'A Go Go'	Una Yeh
1 <sup>st</sup>	Masd. Bobcat	Dann Dunst
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Enc. Lorraine Smith	Jim Gomes
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Masd. Highland Monarch	Dann Dunst
Hon.	Enc. Unknown	Y.S. Farn

## The Huntington Intl. Orchid Show &amp; Sale

The Society is planning on having a display at The Huntington Show. This will only happen, if we have membership participation. We hope that members will donate their plants and time to install the display. This is your chance to have your blooming orchids admired by hundreds of people & perhaps win a prize or two.

Some members have signed up to volunteer at the last meeting. Someone will be getting in touch with them to schedule a time and place on Wednesday October 14.

All members that want to have their plants judged must complete an entry form. I will have these forms available to hand out at the next meeting.

You need to bring your plants to the Huntington on Wednesday, 10/14; judging is 10/15. If you think you will have a blooming plant around 10/14 & would like to display at the Show, please give the info to me at jim.gomes@att.net, or 626-577-7220 anytime prior to 10/14.

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS (CONT.)

**AOS Rep.**  
Greg Orozco  
**O.D. Reps**  
Brenda Ward  
**Arboretum Rep.**  
Greg Orozco  
**Banquet House**  
Vacant  
Tuan Ngo  
**Huntington Rep.**  
Jim Gomes  
**Photographers**  
Jim Gomes  
Una Yeh  
**Plant Forum**  
Greg Orozco  
**Publicity**  
Lana Tripathi  
**Raffle Ticket Sales**  
Gordon Quan  
**Ribbon Judging**  
Linda Peterson  
**Roster**  
Jim Gomes  
**Silent Auction**  
Toby Luong  
**Displays**  
Open

## Membership Welcome Message

We had 29 members and 2 guests in attendance at the August meeting.

### 2014 Membership Dues

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.

### ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN

Anyone interested in advertising in the SGVOH Bulletin should contact **Jim Gomes** (626)818-1859 or jim.gomes@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)818-1859 or jim.gomes@att.net, by the Friday following the fourth Thursday of the month.

# Bud Blast

By Susan Jones

It can be heartbreaking to watch helplessly as long-awaited orchid buds brown, die and drop instead of becoming those much-anticipated flowers. Bud blast, when buds wither and fall from an otherwise healthy plant, may occur through any of a number of causes. Buds are the most sensitive part of an orchid, and are easily affected by unsuitable conditions in the growing environment. Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis and Dendrobiums seem particularly susceptible to this problem. The most frequent reasons for this are as follows.

## Water

Under- or overwatering is a common cause of bud blast. If a plant becomes too dry, it may withdraw moisture from buds as a survival mechanism. Overwatering can damage the orchid's root system, with the end result being a lack of water to the plant. As with underwatering, when the plant is unable to absorb sufficient quantities of water, it will withdraw water from the buds, bringing about their demise. Budding Cattleyas are particularly sensitive to overwatering, which can cause buds to blacken and die while still in their sheath. Water that is allowed to sit on buds or in bud sheaths provides the perfect environment for fungi and bacterial growth, generating rots that will blast buds. Watering with cold water can shock a plant, causing bud drop.

## Temperature

Temperature extremes or rapid temperature changes are often a culprit in bud blast. If a budding orchid receives drafts from a window, an air conditioning or heating vent, or even a rush of air from a hot oven, it may drop buds. Similarly, buds may blast when exposed to temperature fluctuations that occur when taking a plant in from the car or outside during hot or cold weather, bringing plants back into a heated house after a summer outdoors, or temperature extremes

caused by running heating or air conditioning for only part of the day.

## Atmosphere

Orchid buds are sensitive to fumes from paint, natural gas leaks and other chemicals. Once pollinated, flowers generate methane gas, causing them to collapse and saving energy for seed production. Methane or ethylene gas from other sources may also trigger bud or flower collapse. Ethylene gas given off by ripening fruit; gas leaks; inefficient burning of gas stoves or heaters; engine exhaust; cigarette, cigar or pipe smoke; open fires; smog or air pollution can also cause bud blast and age and distort open flowers.

## Light

If lighting available to its developing buds is inadequate, an orchid won't flower properly. Low lighting can cause buds to abort. Too much lighting may also cause trouble; direct sunlight on developing buds can overheat and desiccate them, leading to bud blast.

## Chemical Damage

Fertilizer, fungicide or pesticide applied at dosages above a plant's tolerance or in a manner inconsistent with manufacturer's instructions may damage buds, causing them to drop.

## Humidity

Developing buds need high humidity. If their environment is too dry, or the ambient humidity fluctuates a great deal, buds may be adversely affected and drop.

## Insects

Aphids and thrips can cause bud blast. These insects feed on flowers and flower buds, sucking the plant juices. The buds of infested plants fail to develop properly, dropping from the plant or opening to damaged and disfigured flowers. Thrips can be controlled using Diazinon or Malathion. Aphid control often involves not only eliminating the aphids themselves, but also the ants that farm them. Insecticidal sprays and sugar-based ant baits are recommended. For a few aphids, dab with a cotton swab soaked in rubbing alcohol. Other

means of control include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils (Neem or Sunspray), growth regulators and chitin inhibitors (Enstar II), Pyrethrum-based insecticidal sprays, stronger insecticides (Malathion), and systemic insecticides (Orthene, Shield).

Repeat any treatment method twice after the initial application at seven- to 10-day intervals to kill successive generations. Test new controls on a small population of plants before widespread use. When using insecticides, check labels to be certain the insecticide works against the particular pest and that it is approved for use on orchids. Always use any chemical in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

## Genetics

Occasionally, even under perfect cultural conditions, an orchid will continually abort buds. There may be a genetic mutation responsible for its inability to produce viable blooms, in which case the plant should be discarded.

## A Note from Lana

One of the many advantages of attending and joining SGVOH is



the relevant and timely information, I can't always find fast enough in a book. With the heat, I'm learning about bud blast. The long time members helped with solutions. Our August program on Dendrobiums by Peter Lin was inspiring! He answered all our questions. Check out our indispensable web site and its resources. Hope to see you at the September Meeting!

-Lana Tripathi  
President

# UPCOMING EVENTS

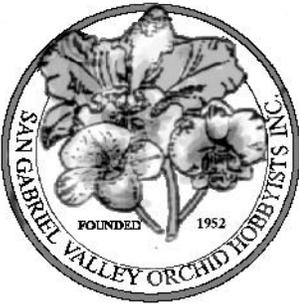
**September 19 - 20**  
**South Bay Orchid Society**  
**Show and Sale**  
 South Coast Botanic Garden  
 26300 Crenshaw Blvd  
 Palos Verdes, CA  
[www.southbayorchidsociety.com](http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com)

**September 26 - 27**  
**Fascination of Orchids**  
**Show and Sale**  
 South Coast Plaza Village  
 1631 West Sunflower  
 Santa Ana, CA 92704  
[www.ocorchidshow.com](http://www.ocorchidshow.com)

**October 2 - 4**  
**Andy's Orchids**  
**Open House**  
 734 Ocean View Ave  
 Encinitas, CA 92024  
[www.andysorchids.com](http://www.andysorchids.com)

**October 16 - 18**  
**The Huntington Botanical Gardens**  
**1st Annual Intl. Orchid**  
**Show & Sale**  
 1151 Oxford Road  
 San Marino, CA 91108  
[www.huntington.org](http://www.huntington.org)

The next **Board Meeting** will be held at 7 PM on **Thursday, September 24**, at the LA County Arboretum. Board members unable to attend should notify **Jim Gomes** ((626) 577-7220 or [jim.gomes@att.net](mailto:jim.gomes@att.net)).



**San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists**  
 Bulletin Editor: Jim Gomes  
 472 N. Raymond Ave.  
 Pasadena, CA 91103

*September 17*  
*Harry Phillips*  
*"Mounted Orchids"*

