



Palomar Orchid Society

Dates to Remember:

- **Oct. 5, Wednesday**
POS General Meeting
- Sept 30, October 1-2
San Diego International Orchid Show/Sale
San Diego Botanic Garden Encinitas
- Oct. 14 - 16
Southland Orchid Show
Huntington Gardens San Marino

October Meeting - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 5

Dr. Mary Gerritsen

"Orchids of Borneo"

This month we are pleased to have as our speaker, Dr. Mary Gerritsen. She will give a presentation on "Borneo, Land Beneath the Wind" which will take us on a virtual trek to discover orchids in their native habitats on the island of Borneo. Mary visited the states of Sabah and Sarawak (Borneo) for nearly a month in November of 2009, and this talk will feature a travelogue of her treks on Mt. Kinabalu, Mt. Alab, Long Pasia, Mulu National Park, Fairy Cave, and Bako National Park.

Mary Gerritsen, Ph.D. is an independent biotechnology consultant who has been interested in plants for most of her adult life, and has been growing orchids on and off for the last 35 years. Her passion for this flowering family was rekindled when she moved to the San Francisco Bay area in 1997 and attended an orchid show. Returning home with a few plants, she decided to join a local orchid society to learn more about taking care of them, and from these early beginnings, her current passion began.

Mary now grows orchids in her two greenhouses, three lath houses, outside, in her sun room, and everywhere else she can. Her collection of about a thousand plants, mostly species, is rich in Masdevallias and other Pleurothallids, monopodials, Porroglossums, Lepanthes, Bulbophyllums, and other miniature orchids.

She has co-authored two botanical books with Ron Parsons "Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World" and "Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives" and is currently working with Ron on a third book "Miniature Orchid Species" which should be published in the fall of 2011. Mary is also now a regular contributor to the AOS magazine "Orchids" with an article published in October 2010 on her trip to Long Pasia, Borneo, and articles on Brazil and the Greek Islands of Crete and Rhodes to appear in upcoming issues.

One of Mary's favorite pastimes is to travel to exotic (and some not so exotic) places to see orchids in situ, and has made it her mission over the last few years to see as many places as possible to see and photograph orchids (and other flo-



Bulb. patens
(Photo by Roman Maruska)

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October Culture Class 6:30 pm

“Orchid Culture Experiences Using Charcoal/Perlite/Peat Moss Media”

By Peter Nguyen

October's culture class will be given by Peter Nguyen. Peter is a longtime orchid grower and hybridizer, who hails from Orange county. He has been growing orchids for over 15 years and specializes in members of the cattleya alliance.

Peter will share with us his experiences growing orchids in charcoal/perlite/peat moss media. Peter was the individual who first introduced Alex Nadzan to this growing medium, which is better known to fellow POS members as the "orchid rescue" mix. Peter also will discuss water quality as it relates to using this medium.

This is a culture class not to be missed. Starts at 6:30 pm sharp!

We need help!

San Diego International Orchid Show!

We do not have a meeting before the show and we still need volunteers.

We will have an information booth at the upcoming San Diego International Orchid Show at the San Diego Botanic Garden (formerly Quail). No experience needed to volunteer! October 1 or 2.

With your badge you can get in free when you are working. Before or after you work you can tour the show. If you can help, please call Sandi Sandquist at 760-918-2408 and let her know when you can help.

Besides the displays and the vendors, there are also educational seminars throughout the weekend so it's another opportunity to learn.

The society needs your help! Volunteer now! Thank you.

President's Message

Dear POS Members and Friends,

Hope everyone had a great summer and now we are going into the Holiday Season. Holidays are a busy time for many reasons, not the least of which are family, turkey and presents. For the POS, several things are coming up including the San Diego International Orchid Fair first weekend in Oct, 2011 on Sat and Sun at the San Diego Botanic Gardens in Encinitas. We need volunteers to maintain the information booth, talk to folks, answer questions, hand out materials and attract members to join the POS. Please spend even a few hours if you can.

Also, upcoming is the nomination and election of new officers to the POS. As a preface to more formal announcements, there likely will be at least 4 vacancies on the board this go around, and unless members step up and consider a stint on the board, we will have vacancies on the

board and possibly issues with the POS bylaws again.

We are considering splitting up many of the tasks that we do, so that no one person has to do everything. In other words, the jobs will be easy and not take up much time at all. Please consider volunteering for a task or position on the POS Board to make the club run smoothly and enjoyable for all. More to follow...

As always we invite members and other guests to attend the meeting to hear our speaker, Mary Gerritsen, PhD. and our featured culture class provider, Peter Nguyen. It will be a very informative evening.

Happy Growing!

Gil Ho



*From the
Refreshment Commit-
tee: WE NEED YOU*

TO BRING FOOD!

Remember: All members with last names beginning with **T - B** share at break time! And you can bring food even if your name doesn't start with T-B!

We appreciate everyone's effort in supplying our meeting with goodies. A snack is appreciated by everyone, and everyone seems to enjoy what is brought, but we never have enough. Please try to help us in this area.

It makes for a great



Orchid Supplies for Members

We will have supplies available for purchase at most meetings: coconut chips, fertilizer, perlite, sphagnum moss, cork, pots, some bark.

If you need something, call Sandi Sandquist (760-918-2408) before the meeting.



WELCOME

We welcomed Nancy Benay as a guest at our meeting last month. Thank you for joining us and we hope to see you again!



The Evolution of the Orchid and the Orchid Bee

From Smithsonian.com

September 23, 2011

Surprising Science blog

When scientists delve into studies of the co-evolution of plants and their pollinators, they have something of a chicken/egg problem—which evolved first, the plant or its pollinator? Orchids and orchid bees are a classic example of this relationship. The flowers depend on the bees to pollinate them so they can reproduce and, in return, the bees get fragrance compounds they use during courtship displays (rather like cologne to attract the lady bees). And researchers had thought that they co-evolved, each species changing a bit, back and forth, over time.

But a new study in *Science* has found that the relationship isn't as equal as had been thought. The biologists reconstructed the complex evolutionary history of the plants and their pollinators, figuring out which bees pollinated which orchid species and analyzing the compounds collected by the bees. It seems that the orchids need the bees more than the bees need the flowers—the compounds produced by the orchids are only about 10 percent of the compounds collected by the bees. The bees collect far more of their "cologne" from other sources, such as tree resin, fungi and leaves.

And it was the bees that evolved first, the researchers found, at least 12 million years before the orchids. "The bees evolved much earlier and independently, which the orchids appear to have been catching up," says the study's lead author, Santiago Ramirez, a post-doc at the University of California at Berkeley. And as the bees evolve new preferences for these chemical compounds, the orchids follow, evolving new compounds to lure back their bee pollinators.

But this study is more than just an interesting look into the evolution of two groups of organisms. The researchers note that in the context of the current decline

of bee populations worldwide, their research has disturbing implications for what that decline might mean for plants. "Many of these orchids don't produce any other type of reward, such as nectar, that would attract other species of bee pollinators," Ramirez notes. "If you lose one species of bee, you could lose three to four species of orchids."

<http://blogs.smithsonianmag.com/science/>



*A male orchid bee collects fragrance compounds from flowers of a *Notylia* orchid. Female orchid bees choose mates based upon the mix of these chemical compounds. (Photo: R. B. Singer)*

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Eria biflora (Photo by Lourens Grobler)

ra as well.) Thus far she has visited Canada, Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Venezuela, Columbia, Mexico, Australia, China, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Greece, Rhodes, Crete and Borneo on orchid "field trips". Not forgetting the US, she has also traveled to various sites in California, Oregon, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia to see North American native orchids.

Mary has also been an active member of the Peninsula Orchid Society for many years, serving as director, vice-president and president. She is also a member of the Pleurothallid Alliance, the Native Orchid Conference, American Orchid Society and is currently the President of the San Francisco Orchid Society.

This is a real treat to have Dr. Gerritsen with us. You don't want to miss this wonderful presentation!



Trichotosia velutina
(Photo by Lourens Grobler)



Southland Orchid Show
at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens

October 14-16, 2011

Friday 12:00pm - 4:30pm

Saturday & Sunday 10:30am - 4:30pm

Exhibits by Southern California Orchid Societies
& International Orchid Growers

Orchids & Supplies for Sale by Vendors from Around the World

Orchid Symposia on Saturday and Sunday

www.orchidshow.org



Pictured: *Ophrys faciflora*, commonly referred to as "The Bee Orchid"

Design: Ted Augustyn
Photograph: Didier Bieri

One of Paul
Gripp's orchids
from last month's
meeting.



Photos from the September Meeting

All Photos by Debra Funakoshi



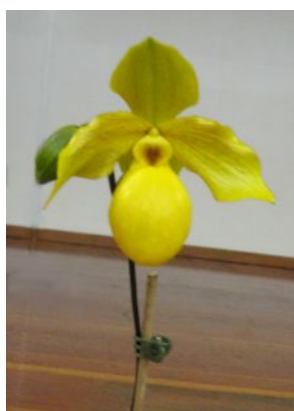
Alex Nadzan talking about his orchids during Show and Tell.



Alex's *L. purpurata*
x *C. Marjorie Hausermann*



Merle Robboy's *Den. bigibbum compactum*



Gil's *Paph. Golddollar*



Anita's *C. San Diego Hotspots*



Anita Spencer's
Bc. Binosa
'Wabash Valley'
AM/AOS



Alex's *Blc. Little Mermaid 'Janet'*



Sandi Sandquist's *Den. lindleyi*

Jerry Spencer talking about one of his beautiful *Cattleyas* during Show and Tell.



Our September speaker, Paul Gripp of Santa Barbara Orchid Estates during his presentations with all the wonderful orchids he brought to talk about!



Upcoming Events

San Diego International Orchid Fair 17th Annual Orchid Show and Orchid Sale



An AOS Sanctioned Judging Event
with 25 Vendors and Ongoing Lectures on Culture and Care

**September 30 - Member's Only Presale
& Exhibit Preview**

October 1 - 2, 2011 - Open to General Public

Friday, September 30 • 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm
(Members Only)

Saturday, October 1 • 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 2 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Costs:

Saturday: Free in Celebration of
Encinitas' 25th birthday

Sunday: Free with admission to
the Garden or with membership.



2010 Participating Vendors:

- • Andy's Orchids
- • Aroma Orchids of Rowland Heights
- • Blossom Planting Supplies
- • Cal-Orchid
- • Calavo Gardens
- • Casa de las Orquideas
- • Daniger Orchids
- • Encinitas Orchids
- • Everything Orchids!
- • Floralia
- • Fouquette Orchids
- • Granite Hills Orchids
- • Haute House Orchids
- • Ontario Orchids
- • Orchids and Gardens
- • Rex Foster Orchids
- • Rio Mojave Orchids
- • Seed Engei
- • SLO Orchids
- • Sunset Valley Orchids
- • Tayama Greenhouses
- • The Orchid Place
- • Water Orchids

San Diego Botanic Garden will again be hosting and sponsoring the splendidly colorful San Diego International Orchid Fair. Thousands of orchids will grace the grounds, some in exhibits and some for sale.

Orchid related products, artistic pottery, paintings, and books will also be available and there will ongoing lectures on culture and care.

The show is an official AOS (American Orchid Society) judging event and there will be ribbon judging as well . Have your orchid judged.!

To register your plants for judging bring them to the Ecke Building on Thursday, September 29, 4 – 7 pm and Friday September 30, 9 am – 1:30 pm. Someone will be available to help you classify your plants. Please make sure they are pest-free, flowers are staked, and plants are clean. Judging begins at 2 pm sharp.



Palomar Orchid Society
Membership Chairperson
5210 Frost Ave
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Next Meeting
Wednesday,
November 2



Business Tagline or Motto

Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society meets the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at the Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe, Carlsbad. Go east off 5 on Carlsbad Village Drive 1/2 mile to Monroe, turn South on Monroe to Women's Club. OR go west off El Camino Real at Carlsbad Village Drive to Monroe and turn south to the Women's Club. Beginner's Culture Class starts at 6:30 pm. The regular meeting begins at 7:00 pm. The next regular meeting will be on November 2, 2011.

Other Nearby Orchid Societies

San Diego County Orchid Society: First Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Membership: Bob Clark, 858-270-8352, email bclark@sdorchids.com

San Diego County Cymbidium Society: Third Wednesday of the month. Always a speaker, Q&A session and raffle. 7:00 PM. Free admission and refreshments. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. (760)732-0055.

Open Houses\Other Orchid Sightings

San Diego Zoo Orchid Greenhouses: Third Friday each month, 10 am to 2 pm. Free with admission. Contact: Janette Gerrity 619-231-1515, ext. 4306