



**SDCOS Summer Show—
Saturday & Sunday,
July 22nd-23rd in Casa
Del Prado Room 101!!!!**

Volume 91

July 2006

www.sdorchids.com

San Diego County Orchid Society

NOVICE MEETING

July 6th (**not July 4th**), 6:30 PM—Casa Del Prado—Room 104

By Bill Molnar, 2nd Vice President

The July novice class on THURSDAY, July 6, will be a 79-slide presentation called "What are Orchids?" This wonderful program is one of the best primers on the diverse family of orchids that the American Orchid Society has to offer. Even the most hardened orchid specialist will find something to enjoy here, if only the terrific photography. The rest of us novices will be captivated by the down-to-earth script and the beautiful slides. Bill Molnar will be doing the presentation, and the American Orchid Society will be providing the slides. Just come to relax, kick back and enjoy some great photos of orchids. Make an effort to get there early, by 6:30, as the room will be dark.

The June meeting was a time to learn about fragrant orchids. Christopher Croom

GENERAL MEETING

July 6th (**not July 4th**), 7:30 PM—Casa Del Prado—Room 101

By Christopher Croom

The speaker for the July SDCOS general meeting will be Christopher Croom, SDCOS Newsletter editor and Board Member, who will be presenting on "How to Smell an Orchid," which will be in the same vein as the presentation he gave to the novice class last month, but should have sufficiently different information so that people who attended last month's novice meeting won't get bored or be barraged with information they already know.

In any case, the presentation will focus mostly on fragrant orchid species, but the

made us aware of the diverse range of smells that orchids give off, ranging from fruity, to new car interior, to corpse-like; all to attract their favorite pollinators. Christopher, your slides were gorgeous; your information, informative; and your talk and manner of presentation, professional. Thanks for the great program you shared with us.

p.s. Christopher, I went home and checked my greenhouse to make sure that I didn't have any orchids with a "corpse-like" smell. Didn't want the neighbors reporting me to the police because there's a dead body smell coming from my backyard.



fragrance contributions of orchid species to hybridization will also be discussed.

Christopher is called "Dr. Fragrance" by some in the orchid world, because of the attention he pays to orchid fragrances. He will also discuss his scent typology, recent biological research on how the sense of smell works, and give a critique of a recently released popular book, *Fragrant Orchids*, by S.A. Frownie.

So, we hope to see everyone who is interested in growing fragrant orchids at our meeting on the 6th!

San Diego County Orchid Society

Board of Directors*

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 [Christopher Croom](#)
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 (*new officer installation during July 6th meeting!)

Membership

We invite you to join the San Diego County Orchid Society! With your membership you will receive the newsletter and many other benefits, including a holiday party and a free orchid at the end of the year!

To join, please send your check for \$15 for an individual membership or \$20 for a dual membership, payable to SDCOS , to:

San Diego County Orchid Society
 P.O. Box 161020
 San Diego, CA 92176

Meetings

San Diego Orchid Society meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Casa Del Prado in Balboa Park.

Novice Class: 6:30 p.m., Room 104
 General Meeting: 7:30 p.m., Room 101

Newsletter Entries

If you have monthly meetings, classifieds, submissions of interest, photos, or announcements related to orchids, please contact Christopher Croom at (619) 583-3804 or batescroom@cox.net.

Advertisers

Please contact Lynn Ford at (619) 283-4172 or lynnford10@earthlink.net.

Information for the August newsletter must be submitted by July 15th.

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 Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm

Tel: 760-631-0098 Fax: 760-631-0228
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Orchid Dates to Remember San Diego County and California

July 1, 9:00 a.m.
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
First Saturday of the month
Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

July 3, 7:00 p.m.
Quail Botanical Gardens Judging Center
First Monday of the month

July 5
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting
Culture class at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
First Wednesday of the month
The Carlsbad Women's Club
3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad
Melana Walding (760) 295-7228

July 6, 6:30 p.m.
SDCOS Novice Meeting
First Tuesday of the month
(changed due to holiday)
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

July 6, 7:30 p.m.
SDCOS General Meeting
First Tuesday of the month
(changed due to holiday)
Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

July 7-9
**26th Annual Santa Barbara Orchid Estate
International Orchid Fair**
Earl Warren Showgrounds
<http://www.orchidfair.com/>

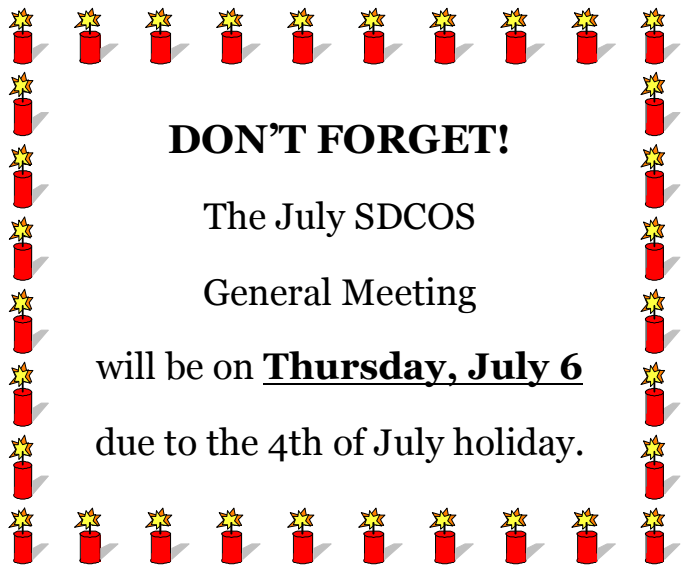
July 11, 7:00 p.m.
SDCOS Board Meeting
Second Tuesday of the month
Balboa Park
Pam Peters (858) 481-9020

July 19
Cymbidium Society Meeting
Regular meeting, third Wednesday of the month
Culture class at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The Carlsbad Women's Club
3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad (858) 748-8355
February 17th, 10 a.m.— 2 p.m.

July 21
San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey
Third Friday of the month
(orchid greenhouse is open)
Janette Gerrity (619) 231-1515 ext. 4306

If you have any announcements that you would like included in the "Dates to Remember" section of the SDCOS Newsletter, please e-mail Christopher Croom at batescroom@cox.net



DON'T FORGET!

The July SDCOS
General Meeting
will be on **Thursday, July 6**
due to the 4th of July holiday.

SDCOS Historian Needed!

Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer for your favorite botanical organization? After Ben Hardy's unfortunate passing, the SDCOS is in need of a new Historian to keep a very basic record of what we do every year. Please call Genie Hammond at 619-426-6831 if you are interested in becoming the new Historian.

The following is the new proposed SDCOS Code of Conduct for Board Members, which will be voted on at the July 6th meeting:

San Diego County Orchid Society Board Members' Code of Conduct

SDCOS Board members will:

- conduct themselves in a fair and professional manner
 - demonstrate personal integrity at all times
 - treat fellow SDCOS members, guest speakers, vendors, and visitors with respect
 - comply with the By-laws of the Society
 - not participate in, condone, or ignore illegal or unethical acts
 - conduct themselves so as to enhance the reputation of the Society
- Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and will be cause for dismissal from the Board.

Back Issues—AOS Bulletin

Back issues of the AOS Bulletin have been donated to benefit the Conservation Committee budget.

Please check with Peter Tobias tobias@scripps.edu or www.sdorchids.com for pricing and to see what is available.

Corsage Chairperson Needed!

Do you love to make corsages? We have the perfect volunteer position for you! This is your chance to become the new Corsage Chairperson. Please let Genie Hammond know at 619-426-6831 if you are interested in volunteering for this wonderful opportunity.



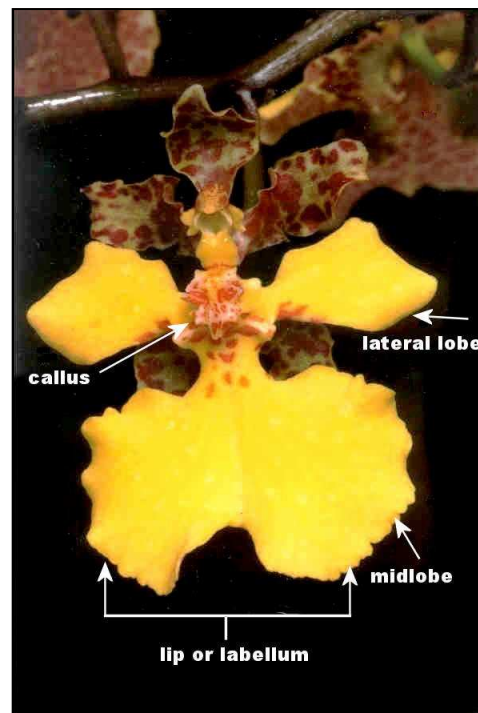
FOR SALE:

One space heater and one swamp cooler. The heater is a 150,000 BTU natural gas open space heater and the cooler is a 1/2-horsepower evaporative cooler. \$300 for both, or best offer. If interested, contact Bud or Joan Close, at: budandjoan6@cox.net or (619) 444-8839.

SDCOS Summer Show

July 22-23

Casa Del Prado, Room 101



Oncidium cebolleta, a hallucinogenic orchid used by the Tarahumara Natives of Mexico when peyote is not available. This photo shows lip structure.

Help Hotline

The SDCOS offers this service to members who seek cultural information about their orchids. Here are some friendly hobbyists with a great deal of experience about certain types of orchids, and they have kindly volunteered to answer your questions.

Cattleyas, Oncidium/Odonts, Vandaceous

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Forrest Robinson (858) 270-6105

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Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829
Bob Hodges (619) 461-4915

Phalaenopsis, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums

Bob Swanson (619) 465-2297

Vandas, Ascocendas

Edith and Leno Galvan (619) 441-7503

Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias

Christopher Croom (619) 583-3804

Pleurothallids

Christopher Croom (619) 583-3804

Cymbidiums

Loren Batchman— casa@orquideas.com
Sam DeMaria (619) 295-2951

Northeast County, all types

Dave Reid (760) 728-7996

San Diego Central

Outdoor, all types
Jim Wright (619) 276-5295
Fred Tomaschke (619) 276-3235

San Diego East County, all types

Bud Close (619) 444-8839

South County, all types

Genie Hammond (619) 426-6831
Ed Marty (619) 470-7175

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Book Review:***The Orchid in Lore and Legend***

by Luigi Berliocchi

(2000, Timber Press)

One of my most enjoyable orchid reads over the years has been *The Orchid in Lore and Legend*, by Luigi Berliocchi. While many of the plants mentioned in it have old names, or are species that used to be popular but are now seldom seen in American horticulture, there are still many, many other species that Berliocchi writes about that might be in your own collection at home.

While orchid books tend to be rife with questionable information, and this book is probably no exception, they are nonetheless an integral component of becoming a better orchid grower. At least 10% of your orchid budget should be set aside for books, and even more if you want to increase the quality of information you have access to. If you *really* want to learn about orchids, try buying any of the multi-volume series of books titled "*The Orchids of _____*," where the blank is the name of the country that the orchids you are interested in grow. (Hence, geographical knowledge is also vitally important to become a better orchid grower.)

In any case Berliocchi's book is cheap (you can get it online for less than \$10), and loaded with interesting stories about early orchid collectors, the orchid frenzy of Victorian England, medicinal uses of orchids, ancient writings about orchids, orchid artists through history, and similar trivial information about orchids.

Some of my favorite topics covered by Berliocchi are orchids that are used as aphrodisiacs (which include many, especially those from the *Ophrys* genus and those with long pseudobulbs like *Den-*

drobium chrysanthum); and stories of edible orchids, such as the varieties of *Ophrys* that are used to make salep; Vanilla; and *Stanhopea tigrina*, which was reported by Hernandez to be an occasional ingredient in tortillas.

So, based on the ethnobotanical and historical information contained in it alone, *The Orchid in Lore and Legend* is an excellent buy. While it has no color photographs or cultural information, it is fun and enjoyable to read, and deserves a space in every orchid lovers' library!

-CC

ATTENTION:**All SDCOS Members**

If you have anything orchid related to sell or trade, place an advertisement in our SDCOS Newsletter. Monthly, the newsletter is perused by literally thousands of Orchid Enthusiasts—including someone surely just waiting for your item.

All you need is to write up the ad (or Lynn Ford will do it), and the monthly costs are:

**1/4 column=\$17. 1/2 column=\$28.
1/2 page=\$56. Full page=\$112.**

A check must be sent to Lynn Ford (treasurer & Ad person) for the size you wish (SDCOS, P.O. Box 161020, San Diego CA, 92176). You can compose your own ad or Lynn will be happy to help. You then email your ad to Christopher Croom at bates-croom@cox.net. He will check that we have your money, and then will run your ad!

Book Review:***Fragrant Orchids***

by Steven A. Frowine
(2005, Timber Press)

I gave a talk on fragrant orchids to the Orchid Society of Southern California last May, and during that talk, one of the OSSC members asked me what I thought of “that new book on fragrant orchids.” Considering that I might have to answer that question again and was completely unfamiliar with the book, I decided to hit up my local bookstore and give it a try.

Frowine’s book is full of useful information, although the title is somewhat misleading. Considering that over 80% of orchids have osmophores, or scent glands, it would seem that his book should catalogue at least 15,000 species alone, rather than the meager 110 species and hybrids he describes (which makes the \$29.95 price tag a little hard to swallow). But, it contains very useful horticultural information, especially oriented to folks who prefer growing their orchids exclusively in pots.

While the sense of smell is highly subjective, I was amazed to find how many orchids that Frowine and I agree on: *Miltoniopsis santanei* and *M. phalaenopsis* both have the fragrance of roses to me, too (although I find them to be both strong, instead of “light” and “strong,” respectively). Frowine also finds the same Vanilla fragrance to *Oncidium ornithorhynchum* that I do, although he thinks that the sweet cleaning product-scented *O. cheiroporum* somehow smells like citrus or lemon (again, smell is a very subjective sense).

Like most orchid books, there are occasionally a few major transgressions: Frowine describes the flower of *Coelogyne lawrenceana* as being 3 1/2” across, when it is more like 6”; and notes that *Bulbophyllum echinolabium* smells like carrion when in bloom,

when it actually is a dead ringer for dog droppings.

But, minutiae and price aside, this is generally an excellent book for beginners or anyone interested in orchid fragrances, and there is nothing else like it on the market today. -CC



**Volunteer Library
Assistant Needed!**

A library assistant is needed to aid with SDCOS library acquisitions (entering books into the library) before the meetings.

If you are free right before each novice and general meeting and want to help out with the SDCOS library,

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**San Diego County Orchid Society
Board Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM. In attendance were: David Brown, Bob Clark, Christopher Croom, Lynn Ford, Genie Hammond, Ron Kaufmann, Bill Molnar, Vivian Follmer.

Minutes: May Board minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made and seconded to file the Treasurer's Report for audit.

Old Business:

Show Report - money still coming in. So far a profit of \$13,134.34 is being reported

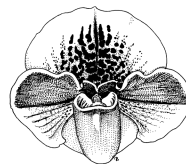
Lynn Ford received a letter from the Orchid Digest dated 2005, thanking the society for the donation of money in the name of Bob Dugger.

Research is still on going regarding LCD projector and laptop computer. Chris and Ron are exploring all possibilities. Chris has the LCD projector narrowed down to NEC or Hitachi, pricing under \$1,000. Is looking for the best price. Ron has made recommendations for a laptop, with enough memory and hard drive to run presentations prepared by speakers and for the secretary to take minutes. Price to range from \$700 to \$800 looking for best price. (continued on next page...)



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New Business:

July 6th main speaker has not been found as yet.

Bill Molnar will be the speaker at the novice meeting on "What are Orchids" a slide show from the AOS.

Was suggested that the board members meet at the society garage one Saturday for a clean up.

Lynn mentioned that the end of June is the final date for advertisers to renew their ads for the bulletin. All but 3 have. She would like to notify them that if they have special announcements, sales etc., they can either use their paid ad space or use the newsletter "Dates to Remember" section for one line announcements which would be free.

Ron Kaufmann handed out the Manabi Dry Forest Conservation Project Annual Progress Report. The Conversation group has awarded them \$6,000 per year for 3 years on their project, this is the second year of funding and Ron would like an email vote for the 2nd year finding after the Board has had a chance to read through the Progress Report. Ron will email board asking for questions. Genie will send out a voting email to all board members by June 20th.

July mini show will be July 22nd & 23rd, with setup on Friday evening. David will check on dates. Tom Biggert will pick up plants that are purchased for sale at the show.

David would like to get a list of upcoming speakers in advance to give to the Horticultural Society for their distribution.

It was mentioned that it might be helpful to the librarian if there was an assistant librarian to help collect books, etc. when he is not there. Will look into it.

Ron was officially voted to ask Paul Tuskes to review and recommend changes and updates to the by-laws.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM by President Genie Hammond.

Respectfully submitted,
Vivian Follmer, Director

The San Diego Botanical Foundation: What Is It?

The following is from a letter from the San Diego Botanical Foundation, who requested that this information be made available to all SDCOS members:

“The San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, tax exempt organization formed by and coordinating the activities of its Affiliated and Associated Members in the San Diego area (including the SDCOS).

The Foundation had its inception in 1962 when the San Diego Floral Association, at the suggestion of the San Diego County Orchid Society, called a meeting of all interested clubs and societies to consider ways to develop a Garden Center and establish overall leadership.

Organization of the Foundation resulted. It now represents more than 55 groups with a combined membership of more than 6,000. The Foundation also solicits memberships, sponsors, and contributors.

The Garden Center, A Dream Come True (continued on next page...)

In the 1960 Bartholemew Master Plan for Balboa Park it was noted that more than 50 garden clubs in the San Diego area were an important community resource. The report noted the need for a gardening leadership organization and a home for it in Balboa Park.

Answering this call, the various floral and garden groups organized and incorporated the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation. In 1966 a Foundation Committee met with the City Council and called attention to the fact that nothing had been done about the Bartholemew Plan's recommendation. The Committee proposed that a Garden Center be built to replace the old Food and Beverage Building in Balboa Park.

A bond issue was submitted to the people, and with the campaigning by members of the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation, the Committee of 100, and other groups, the bond issue passed overwhelmingly. Ground was broken in November 1969 and Casa Del Prado with its Garden Center became a reality when the building was dedicated and occupied in November 1971.

In Casa Del Prado there are many cultural activities under the sponsorship of the Park and Recreation Department of the City of San Diego. As a result of the Foundation's leadership at the inception of the program to build the Garden Center, the Foundation's Affiliated Members have priority in the use of the designated Garden Center areas.

This use averages more than seventy meetings a month by the Affiliated and Associated Members, including open house programs and public exhibits. These public programs attract thousands of people a month, with some special events, such as shows, drawing attendance of more than 6,000 over a two-day weekend."

FOR SALE:

Complete greenhouse, 24' x 36', double-wall, with 12' shade structure surrounding it. Includes evaporative cooler and large louvered exhaust fan.

Also available are large commercial shade cloth panels in various sizes.

If interested, contact Genie Hammond at
(619) 426-6831.

Volunteer to Help Out with the Summer SDCOS Show!!

President Hammond and the SDCOS would like your assistance in setting up the tables and plants for the Summer 2006 SDCOS Show in the Casa Del Prado. Set-up will be on Friday evening, July 21st, from 6-8 pm. Please call Genie Hammond at (619) 426-6831 if you would like to help set up for the Summer Show!



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Letter From the Editor

Dear SDCOS,

Early summer is Sobralia season in San Diego, and if you have any of these graceful-looking orchids with short-lived blooms, I hope you are enjoying the rewards of good horticultural practices. Other members of the Cattleya alliance should also be blooming for you this time of year (Lc.'s Blc.'s, Slc.'s, etc.) as the new growths harden and mature. Remember that light is usually the biggest limiting factor in blooming your orchids, and that the more light you can give your orchids without damaging them, the better they will bloom. Your reed-stemmed epidendrums should also be in full display, and many encyclias and their hybrids bloom this time of year also.

If your Phalaenopsis plants are done with their blooms and the spikes are no longer growing or branching (at all), this is a good time of year to repot them. Also, you can move them outside for the summer, but just make sure they don't get any direct (sun)light. Let them grow and do their own thing for the summer after you repot and don't push them too much, although forgiving Phalaenopsis are hard to overfertilize unless you go crazy and start mixing the fertilizer at or above the manufacturer's directions.

Contact Information:

Christopher Croom
(619) 583-3804
batescroom@cox.net

Also, Genie's greenhouse is taken down and ready for sale and shipping, so if anyone wants to score on an incredible deal and get their foot into pseudo-commercial orchid culture, give her a call!

Happy Growing!
-Christopher