



ORCHIDS AWEIGH

Newsletter of the NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

Costa Mesa Senior Center | 695 W. 19th Street | Costa Mesa, CA 92627

January 2022

President's Message

Wishing you and yours a safe, healthy, and prosperous new year!

Hope all of you had a wonderful time with your loved ones during holiday season. Besides our monthly Zoom meetings, we had a successful annual Holiday Dinner at Stonefire Grill.

Everyone enjoyed the food and it was so good to see members in person to celebrate the occasion. Special thanks

to my wonderful Charlie's Angels: **Paula Butler, Julie Ford** and **Chitsaya Winmaw** for arranging the holiday party.

Our NHOS Orchid Expo Show committee is currently in the process of preparing for upcoming our Orchid Show at Westminster Mall in February. We are carefully organizing the event and if anything changes we will let you know.

It is rewarding time for growing cym-

bidiums, Australian dendrobiums and other winter blooming orchids. Also, time to remove weeds, clean up plants and stake those spikes properly for better display.

We will continue to enjoy our monthly meeting via Zoom until we can get together in person safely again.

Stay safe, be well, and Happy New Year you to all!

Winn Winmaw
NHOS President

January Speaker

Steve Frowine

"Growing Orchids Without a Greenhouse"

"Steve Frowine: The Orchid Man"
by Charlie Nardozi, Horticulturist

Steve Frowine is a self-proclaimed "plant nerd." Ever since he was a kid he's loved plants. "I started helping my neighbor, 'Miz' Connell weed her garden when I was a youngster," says Steve. "I've had my nose in plants ever since." His dad, a successful lawyer in Portsmouth, Ohio, wasn't sure that horticulture was a field his son should study. To test him, he got young Steve a job at a local florist, instructing the owner to "pay him a Pepsi a day and work him hard." It backfired. Steve loved the job so much he was bent on studying horticulture in college and making it his career.

His fixation with orchids started in junior high school when his dad brought one back as a present from



Florida. Usually Steve has little patience for plants that don't bloom, but not so with orchids. "I've been growing a division of a lady slipper orchid (*Paphiopedilum Langley Pride* 'Burlingame' HCC/AOS) for 26 years. It finally bloomed for the first time this winter," he says. Now that's obsession!

Mr. Horticulture

Steve's resume reads like a list of the top organizations and companies in the U.S. horticultural world. He has worked at the Missouri Botanical Garden, National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center, W. Atlee Burpee, White Flower Farm, Etera, International Garden Products, and Dutch Gardens.

He's written articles for most major gardening magazines and has been on the boards of the Garden Writers Association (GWA), National Gardening Association (NGA), and American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta (AABGA) and on the Visiting Committee of Longwood Gardens.

Steve has written four orchid books: *Orchids for Dummies*, published by Wiley; and *Fragrant Orchids*, *Miniature Orchids*, and *Moth Orchids, the Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis*, published by Timber Press. Through all these changes and years in horticulture, one area that has remained constant is Steve's love of growing orchids. Now, the passion for orchids has caught on with amateur and professional gardeners alike.

And Why Grow Orchids?

"The popularity of orchids is exploding," says Steve. In the horticultural Mecca of Holland, it is the most popular potted plant grown. In the US, orchids are currently second behind poinsettias as the most popular flowering potted plant. The reasons for this rise in popularity are many. "It used to be you'd need a greenhouse to grow

Speaker continued on page 2

Meetings are held on the
third Tuesday of each month.

General Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

orchids, and only the very wealthy would be involved,” says Steve. Now, with modern plant breeding and cloning, new and superior orchids are available for a lower price. Plus, many are easy to grow,” he adds. “Orchids can bloom for months indoors in winter — right when you need a flowery burst,” says Steve.

Some, such as the moth orchid (Phalaenopsis), is well adapted to indoor lighting and temperatures, often blooming without much effort. Breeders are creating more compact-growing orchids that are perfect for windowsills. And orchids make a major fashion statement. “They signify elegance and a good life,” says Steve.

The next wave in orchid mania is fragrant orchids. Most of the orchids widely available to home gardeners look beautiful but have no scent. Like

other garden flowers, such as roses, fragrance has been bred out of many modern varieties. But there are orchids that smell like vanilla, chocolate, cinnamon, citrus, gardenia, and even rose.

Orchid Growing Tips

The easiest orchids to grow at home are the moth orchids (Phalaenopsis). If you don’t have a sunny windowsill, the best way to get your orchids blooming is to grow them as Steve does, under fluorescent lights. Steve also likes to place his orchids outside in summer in a shady area or lathe house. “The orchids increase in size, and the cool night temperatures help trigger flowering in winter and spring,” he says.

So what are an orchid guru’s favorite orchids? Here’s Steve’s short list of easy-to-grow, fragrant orchids to try at home.

Five easy and very fragrant orchids:

Oncidium ‘Sharry Baby’ (Chocolate

Orchid). This widely available orchid smells like chocolate and vanilla.

Brassavola nodosa (Lady of the Night). Its glistening, white flowers have a heavenly evening fragrance.

Neofinetia falcata (Japanese Wind Orchid). This orchid is revered by the Japanese for its jasmine scent. It’s a small grower perfect for windowsills or under lights.

Rhynchostylis gigantea (Foxtail Orchid). A larger orchid best suited to a sunroom or greenhouse, this one will fill up a room with its pungent citrus-like intoxicating scent.

Encyclia cordigera (Butterfly Orchid). It has a sumptuous scent that is a blend of vanilla and honey.

For more information on orchid growing, see the American Orchid Society website: <http://www.orchidweb.org>. Steve has his own website at <http://stevefrow.ag-sites.net/bio.htm>.

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BUS TRIP TO SANTA BARBARA ORCHID SHOW

We are happy to announce that we are planning to have our annual bus trip to the Santa Barbara Orchid show on Saturday, March 12, 2022.

Hopefully,

We will have a bus trip to the Santa Barbara Orchid show. We need 52 seats filled by mid-February. The cost is \$40 cash or check made out to N.H.O.S. for each person attending. Please provide the full name of each participant.

Vaccination record card is required for all.

Please call Michael Miranda for more info: (949) 650-5142.

CANCELED

Orchids Aweigh is published monthly. News deadline is the 25th of each month.

Editor: Paula Butler
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Webmaster: Thet Htun
NHOS Website: www.nhosinfo.org

Orchid photos courtesy of Van Anne Pham.

Orchids, Treasures of Our World

Newport Harbor Orchid Society Orchid EXPO February 2022

The Newport Harbor Orchid Society 2022 Orchid Expo is six weeks away, February 11, 12, and 13, 2022 at the Westminster Mall. Parking is free, and handicap accessible.

The hours are:

Friday, February 11 10 am - 9 pm
Saturday, February 12 10 am - 8 pm
Sunday, February 13 11 am - 6 pm

Potting workshops are at 2:00 pm each afternoon; cost is \$10.00 including a pot, bark and a plant. Most of your favorite vendors will be there as well as Bonsai, art and photography displays.

This year's theme is "Orchids, Treasures of Our World", and plans are well under way.

We need all of you great volunteers to help make it a real success. Volunteers who work six hours will receive a free t-shirt designed **Vanessa Bui**, with our theme on the back.

We need volunteers as follows:

Wednesday 2/9 6 pm - 9 pm
For set up

Thursday 2/10 8 am - 8 pm (three-hour shifts)
For set up of society and vendor displays

Friday 2/11 10 am - 9 pm (three-hour shifts)
Staff the information desk, plant hotel, and display rooms

Saturday 2/12 10 am - 8 pm (three-hour shifts)
Staff the information desk, plant hotel, and display rooms

Sunday 2/13 11 am - 6 pm (three-hour shifts)
Staff the information desk, plant hotel, and display rooms

Sunday 2/13 6 pm - 9 pm
For clean-up

Anyone wishing to volunteer, please contact Rosemary Krumme at (714) 892-2278 (cell) or email at Rosegk@verizon.net.

Members who are planning to sell their orchids at the Member Sales Booth are required to volunteer at least one three-hour shift in the booth. Their hours will be counted toward the six hours needed to receive a free t-shirt. Please contact **Ann** or **Joe Rupp** at (714) 329-7721 or (714) 329-5155 for more information.

Please come and bring all your friends and neighbors to help make our Orchid Expo a huge success. Thank you from the show committee.

Rosemary Krumme

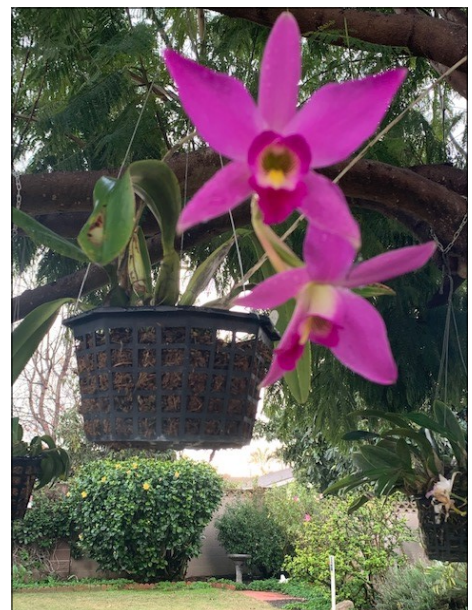
Newport Harbor Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Date:
January 18, 2022

Time:
07:00 PM Pacific Time

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82793911665?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82793911665?pwd=ZUFBaHNzOVJCYzViMFJQWVRteTRNUT09)
[pwd=ZUFBaHNzOVJCYzViMFJQWVRteTRNUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82793911665?pwd=ZUFBaHNzOVJCYzViMFJQWVRteTRNUT09)

Meeting ID: 827 9391 1665
Passcode: 951892



**Festive
Photos
from the
Holiday
Fete!**



Richard Hara
10749 La Terraza Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA



Address Update Requested