



ORCHIDS AWEIGH

Newsletter of the NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

Neighborhood Community Center | 1845 Park Avenue | Costa Mesa, CA | 714-327-7525

September 2008

Greenhouse & Garden Tour

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Our annual greenhouse and garden tour will take place year on Saturday, September 27. We're in for a big treat again this year—Merle and Georgette Robboy (9:00 to 10:15 a.m.), Tom Harrison (11:00 to 11:45 a.m.), and Joe and Ann Rupp (noon to 1:30 p.m.) have graciously agreed to open up their growing areas to NHOS members. This is a great opportunity to see a wide variety of plants—species and hybrids alike, and a new greenhouse at each location.

Last fall when we visited Merle and Georgette Robboy they had just moved into their new home in Fallbrook and the orchids were in temporary quarters in the stable while the new greenhouse and shade area were receiving their finishing touches. Their plants are now in the greenhouse and shade area, and a horse happily installed in the stable.

From the Robboy's we will move on to Tom Harrison's home in Laguna Hills where he has worked very hard this summer to construct a new greenhouse he imported from Germany and completely re landscaped his outside areas to add new walkways and much more.

Then we will proceed a short distance to Laguna Niguel to see Ann and Joe Rupp's new home and large greenhouse. Joe is working on it as I write this article, and I am sure it will be great! Lunch will be served at Ann and Joe's. Please help us plan for the lunch by letting us know if

you will be attending. A sign up sheet will be available at our September meeting as well as printed copies of the driving instructions and scheduled times.

To help with our costs we will ask a \$5.00 donation for NON-MEMBERS who attend the luncheon. There are no charges for current members. If you have questions, would like to help, or rsvp in advance please email me at jim_miller100@att.net. I look forward to a great day.

Jim Miller

September Speaker Winn Winmaw

"The Orchids of Mount Popa"

Our September speaker will be our own NHOS member Winn Winmaw. Winn will speak on his recent trip to Myanmar (Burma) in March of 2008. He visited Myanmar a few weeks before the Cyclone Nargis hit and devastated the delta area, including Rangoon, where he stayed during his trip.

At Winn's request, his cousin, Dr. Saw Lwin, who is an orchidologist, kindly arranged for an interesting trip to Mount Popa, an extinct volcano that last erupted 25,000 years ago. Mount Popa is located in Burma's central plains, and it is Asia's answer to Mount Olympus. Throughout Burmese history, it has been the nation's mystical hot spot. Popa Mountain Park was established in 1983 and opened as a park in 1989. In addition to enjoying the beauty of the area's native orchids, Winn's tour group also encountered native village life, banana plantations, exotic food, and the wildlife from the crater area.

Winn was born and raised in Burma. In

Culture Class

Dorothy Goldberg will talk about orchid wisdom. She will teach us what she has learned from her love affair with orchids. It should be a Culture Class not to be missed. I am thrilled.

Joyce Nugent
Culture Class Coordinator

1984 he moved to Japan, and in 1989 he came to the U.S. Since 1991 he has lived in Orange County. He began collecting orchids at the age of 10 while on hiking trips in his native Burma. Winn hopes you all enjoy his presentation and slide show of Mount Popa.

Lico Orchids will provide the plants for the raffle table.

Denise Claycomb
First Vice-President

Meetings are held on the
third Tuesday of each month

Culture Class at 7:00 p.m.
General Meeting at 7:45 p.m.



September Culture Checklist

Though Fall is approaching in many parts of the country, September and October in Southern California are two of the warmest and driest months of the year, and it can be a challenge to maintain sufficient levels of humidity in for your orchids. October also marks the arrival of the dreaded Santa Ana winds, which can do enormous damage to plants in outdoor growing areas. Here are a variety of useful tips from NHOS members Denise Claycomb, Nico Goossens, Dave and Judy Smith, and Lynn Wiand. This will be the first in a series of checklists from area growers, and I would like to invite you to send in your tips.

Nancy Benay, Co-editor

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Editor: Nancy Benay
Designer/Editor: Christine Aschan
caaschan@uci.edu | 949-824-7005

NHOS Website: www.nhos.org
Web Designer: Marcie Hague
Marcie.hague@cox.net

Fertilizing Tip Denise Claycomb

I know all orchid growers have heard the expression “weekly weakly,” but it really works; ask any commercial grower. When I talked myself into making the investment in a Dosatron Injection system it made fertilizing so easy, not only do I feed my orchids every week, but all my potted plants, ornamentals in the flower beds and even the grass. Also, I water a lot, and the store-bought watering wands tend to wear out very quickly, so I decided to make my own using PVC pipe. I found all the parts I needed at Home Depot, and they last forever. I made a long one for outside and a short one for the greenhouse. Denise Claycomb

Repotting & Watering: Nico Goossens

I water as often as I can to gain maximum growth, and I don’t have to worry about watering too much as our plants still need plenty. I watch that the new fresh root tips are establishing themselves in the media or on the mount without shriveling from mineral buildup or excess salts. The fertilizer I use is still providing plenty of nitrogen for rapid growth. Incidentally, my fertilizer preference has an increased portion of magnesium as this facilitates the absorption and use of calcium in the water supply. Some people have gained some results by using Epsom salts as a flushing agent in their watering habits. Be careful, Epsom salts are nevertheless a salt and can contribute (somewhat differently) to the calcium salt build-up we are trying to prevent.

It is a good time to continue repotting your orchids, since there are still a few months for them to become established. Remember, the best time to repot is just before new roots emerge, so that these new roots can establish themselves in the new media. Some Cattleyas send out their new roots after blooming and some establish new roots before blooming. Know

which ones are which and you will find that this is a good time to repot spring bloomers that send out new roots after they bloom and fall bloomers that send out new roots before they bloom.

Fall Santa Ana Winds Dave and Judy Smith

The early Santa Ana Winds can suddenly burn orchid leaves as humidity drops to single digits because the sun is still at a fairly high angle. In September, we’ll be getting ready for the Fall Santa Ana conditions by moving the more delicate plants away from exposed locations to the south side of our lath house to protect plants as the sun dips South for the winter.

Staking Cymbidiums Lynn Wiand

Time is at hand to check out those Cymbidiums, as many of them will already be producing spikes. Check to locate emerging spikes; be very careful, as they are most vulnerable to breaking at this point. For **upright** spikes, carefully insert a tall stake next to each one. This way you will know where the new spikes are and be able to train the upright spikes to the stake as it grows taller. This will keep the spikes straight so the flowers won’t be crowded and can open fully. For your pendulous spikes, mark each with a bright colored plant tag. This will be a warning to be careful not to damage the emerging spikes. It would also be a good idea for you to finally begin hanging your pendulous Cymbidiums so the spikes can hang down freely and open at their best.

Membership Corner

We have a new member all the way from Palos Verdes. His name is Mark Gibbel, of Gibbel Nurseries, and he brought a friend tonight, Mary Chhith (yes, that is two H’s). Earl and Joyce brought three friends, John and Robin Hand and Joann McCully. Always happy to see new, smiling faces. Just a few days left to get dues to Deb Munson for your name to be included in the new roster. Her address is 5 Crosscreek, Irvine, 552 4799.

Laura Perry

September Refreshments

For the September meeting, would members beginning with **Takeshi & Chiyo Kawahara** and ending with **Brian Matthews** bring snacks to share. Thank you.

President's Message

Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids stressed that not all species within a genus need the same growing conditions. That stuck. I have got to get a better tagging system for my orchids – maybe color coded for light and water frequency, something that I cannot mess up. What do you do to stay organized (if anything)? Email me tchteach@aol.com; I will compile a list.

NHOS has received its first request to purchase advertising space in the newsletter. If you are also interested, call or email me. The Board will deal with this on September 4th.

Please update your contact information and pay your dues to Laura Perry (KPerry9507@aol.com). We will be printing the roster soon. Include your email as well and whether you would prefer the newsletter by email. You will save \$5 this way and save the Society a few dollars on top of that as the newsletter

costs more than \$5 to print and send.

We need a new person or two to step forward and run the raffle. If you are interested, notify me. If I ask you, please consider. We all need to help out. Thanks to Ron and Mamie Nash for their dedicated service at the raffle table these past years. It was much appreciated.

Always looking forward to seeing you and your orchids,

Tom Harrison, President

In Memoriam: Pernel George (PG) Barnett

Sadly we have lost a founding NHOS member, Pernel George Barnett, who passed away on July 27 at the age of 89. George began growing orchids upon his return from WWII, where he served in the Merchant Marine in the South Pacific. He became enamored of orchids after having seen them grow in the wild there. Over the years he developed a major collection of 2500 plants and began a *Cattleya* breeding program for which he received 250 AOS awards. He was the only grower ever to receive four First Class Certificates for his *Cattleyas*. His prized plants were constantly sought after by Japanese growers. He was known as "PG" and more affectionately as "Mr. *Cattleya*."



To the delight of NHOS members, PG loved to share his exquisite blooming *Cattleyas* at meetings. Our sincerest condolences to Mary Ann, PG's wife of 56 years, and to his family. — Lynn Wiand

August 2008 Judging Results

GENUS	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE	JUDGES
POINTS	5 pts	3 pts	1 pt	
CATTELEYA	Slc. Burmese Gem	Encyclia alata	Cat. Spotted Gem "Snow Leopard"	Winn Winmaw
	Ha Bui	Ha Bui	Denise Claycomb	
CYMBIDIUM	Cym. ensifolium Lynn Wiand	No entry	Coulda placed!	Dave Smith
DENDROBIUM	Den. papilio Lynn Wiand	Den. densiflorum Kay Firebaugh	Den. macrophyllum Denise Claycomb	Dave Smith
MAXILLARIEAE	Promenaea stapeloides Lynn Wiand	Xylobium squalens Denise Claycomb	Lycaste. aromatica H. & J. Schuck	Nancy Benay
ONCIDIUM	Ornithocephalus puchillum Lynn Wiand	Psycopsis papilio Harry & Janelle Schuck	Miltonia 'Little Surprise' Dorothy Goldberg	Judy Smith
PAPHIOPEDILUM	Paph. Magic Lantern Dorothy Goldberg	Paph. Bengal Lancers Lynn Wiand	Paph. Saint Swithin Richard & Lily Hara	Kay Firebaugh
PHALAENOPSIS	Dtps Purple Gem Denise Claycomb	Phal. celenbensis Denise Claycomb	Phal. Cornu cervi alba Nancy Benay	Lily Hara
PLEUROTHALLID	No Plant	No entry	What happened?	Greg Fryling
VANDA	Vanda Robert's Delight Chitsaya & Winn W.	Renanthera 'Scarlet Yuka' Ha Bui	Aranda 'Norma Alassgoft' C. & W. Winmaw	Judy Smith
MISCELLANEOUS	Scaphyglottis livida Dorothy Goldberg	Chiloschista pygmaeus Denise Claycomb	Dendrochilum cobbianum Barb. Livingston	Lynn Wiand
POINTS	3 pts	2 pts	1 pt	
NOVICE	Un named Cattleya Joyce Nugent	BLC Copper Queen Margaret Nerio	Epi. – Orange Joyce Nugent	Greg Fryling
CULTURAL AWARD WINNER—7 points	Renanthera "Scarlet Yuka"	Ha Bui		



Mark Your Calendars...

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Annual NHOS Greenhouse and Garden Tour. See article on page 1 for details.

Friday, October 3-Sunday, October 5, 2008

14th Annual San Diego Orchid Fair, organized and sponsored by Quail Botanical Gardens.
http://www.qbggardens.org/events/pdf/QBG_Orchid_ad_08.pdf

Friday, October 17-Sunday, October 19, 2008

Southland Orchid Show, Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA 91108. This year's theme, Harvest Moon Orchid Festival, honors the grand opening of the Chinese Gardens.
<http://www.southlandorchids.org/Southland/Show.htm>

Saturday, October 25-Sunday, October 26, 2008

San Diego County Orchid Society Fall Show in the Park. Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. Room 101. Free admission. Saturday hours: 11:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday hours: 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
www.sdorchids.com

Saturday, November 1,-Sunday, November 2, 2008

48th Annual Fall Open House and Sale, Santa Barbara Orchid Estate. 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
www.sborchid.com



Nancy Benay
2 Allegheny
Irvine, CA 92620



Address Update Requested