



ORCHIDS AWEIGH

Newsletter of the NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

August 2010

President's Message

This year's awards banquet was as wonderful as in years past. A big thank you to **Michael Miranda** for his gracious hospitality and once again for allowing us into his mini oasis in the middle of our busy world. Thank you to **Phil Duke** for arranging our Greek dining experience, **Richard and Lily Hara** for bringing the supplies and drinks.

Thank you to our flower team who brought and made our tables festive and to all of you who brought tasty dishes to share and to those of you who stayed to help take down and move tables at the end of the evening. Last but not least, congratulations to the award winners. A good time was had by all.

The show committee is moving forward on the Newport Harbor Orchid Expo at Westminster Mall. The show date is set for the last weekend in January 2011. There were lots and lots of suggestions submitted for the show theme this year. After careful review, the show committee chose "Orchid Extravaganza." Congratulations to **Nancy Benay** for her entry.

I am having a tough time finding someone to take over the position of First Vice President/Program Chairperson. This is a vital part of our meetings; our society will not survive without good speaker programs. So please if you are interested call me, and talk to me about it.

"God made rainy days so gardeners could get the house work done."

Author unknown

Meetings are held on the **third Tuesday** of each month

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

I started out in the position with no experience and did it for four years. I enjoyed getting to know the speakers personally, and the good news is you only need to line up nine speakers a year, by the next meeting it will only be eight. We have been winging it for the past year with the culture class. We really need someone to step up and take charge of this also.

Denise Claycomb
President



August Speaker Karen Muir

"What Makes a Good Paph"

The NHS welcomes back Karen Muir as our speaker this month. She is originally from Michigan where she began raising orchids around 1975.

She was a member of the Michigan Orchid Society and held all of the offices of the Society including show chair, program chair, vice president and president. Karen became an accredited American Orchid Society Judge in 1997.

In 1998, she was transferred by her Company, Lincoln Mercury, to Irvine, California. Karen retired in January 2002 and lives in Laguna Niguel, California. Karen

Culture Class

As of the deadline for the August newsletter, the culture class speaker and topic are yet to be determined. The slot for a culture class coordinator has been vacant for over a year now.

If you are interested in taking on this position, please contact NHOS President Denise Claycomb at (949) 859-4238 or at turtlegramma@dslextrême.com. If you are willing to volunteer to conduct the August class, please also notify Denise.

"There can be no other occupation like gardening in which, if you were to creep up behind someone at their work, you would find them smiling."

Mirabel Osler

also served five years as the American Orchid Society Chair of the Pacific South Judging Region and has traveled to Canada, Guatemala, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, South Africa and Japan to attend and judge orchid shows.

She has lectured on the Society circuit in the US, including the California Paphiopedilum Guild, the Slipper Alliance, NCOS (National Capital Orchid Society) Paphiopedilum Forum, two South African Paphiopedilum Conferences and the Paph. Forum in London, England.



Orchid Trekking in Sonoma County: A Visit to Marni Turkel's Greenhouses

Last month I spent a week on the Russian River outside of Healdsburg. Thinking that there would be the possibility of seeing some terrestrial orchids growing in the "wild," I googled native orchids of Sonoma County but alas the only reference that came up was the Orchid Society of Santa Rosa.

Not quite native orchids, but then I had a second thought: why don't I contact Marni Turkel, who lives in Santa Rosa, to see if I could visit her greenhouses. I knew she had an extensive and very interesting collection, and as some of you may remember, she spoke to the NHOS a few years ago; her displays and plants have won numerous awards, and her articles are periodically featured in *Orchids*.

When she responded that I would be welcome to visit, I was delighted. After a couple of strenuous days of kayaking, tubing

on the Russian River, wine tasting, sampling gourmet meals in Healdsburg restaurants, I was hankering to see some orchids. With my daughter, Françoise and a cousin we spent a morning poking through Marni's incredible orchid collection.



When we arrived Marni immediately escorted us into her photo studio where she had hung a huge *Cuitlanzinia pendula*, that she was planning to take to the San Francisco Orchid Society meeting in early July for ribbon judging, and she thought that the photo studio would be the best place to protect it from the bees who were able to make their way into the greenhouse and were pollinating the flowers. Talk about being totally "blown away," it was an impressive sight to see both the size of the plant and the enormous number of pendulous spikes hanging in front of the black backdrop.

After we had lingered in front of the *Cuitlanzinia* for about five or ten minutes in total admiration, it was on to Marni's intermediate greenhouse which is a large structure attached to the back of her house. Lots of pleurothallids and other genera of all sorts—masdevallias, restrepias, draculas, and blooming dendrobium cuthbertsonias, plus hundreds (more like two or so thousand) plants, many I had never heard of or seen before.

The mounted orchids in this greenhouse are hand watered daily during the summer, and the potted plants every two or three days. As Marni explained she stopped counting her orchids when her collection

was at 103 plants. Today there are approximately 5,000 plants. She has been growing for over thirty years, and if she does not know a plant, it is a reason to buy it and grow it.

Her newest greenhouse accommodates orchids that require cooler and dryer conditions, among them a collection of *Pleiones*; and her third greenhouse is for orchids that are warm-growing and require lots of water. She uses a reverse osmosis system and waters everything by hand.

If space permitted, I would love to share more of the photos that Françoise took during our visit to give you a better sense of the variety and quality in Marni's collection. It is certainly one of the best that I have seen from the point of view of the diversity, growing conditions, and quality of the plants. Marni sells her plants on Ebay if you are interested. She mentioned as we were leaving that she has developed some new talks. Hint, hint to the next First Vice-President.

Nancy Benay, Co-Editor

Membership Corner

It was so nice to see so many of you at the banquet on July 20th. For those of you who didn't make it, Michael's yard gets better and better, and we thank him for his hospitality.

We were sorry to hear that Georgia Farmer is moving to Hemet where they grow roses, not orchids. She will be missed.

Dues are coming in nicely, but many of you have not replied. I am extending the deadline to the meeting in August, hoping some will come to that meeting, or you will send mail. Email just DOES NOT work as a money transfer! If you are not renewing, I would still like to hear from you, if only to say goodbye. Thanks much.

You can reach me at 949 642 4148 or kperry9507@aol.com. My address is 1412 Priscilla Lane, Newport Beach 92660.

Laura Perry, Membership Secretary

Officers 2010-11

President

Denise Claycomb

First Vice President

Open

Second Vice President

Joe Rupp

Corporate Secretary

Karen Casey

Membership

Laura Perry

Treasurer

Richard Hara

Ex-Officio

Tom Harrison

Board of Directors

Ha Bui

Tina Coombe

Guy Gottschalk

Linda Iannelli

Nahid Khonsari

Michael Miranda

Ann Rupp

Rick Wells

Darrellyn Wood

Orchids Aweigh is published monthly. News deadline is the 25th of each month.
Editor: Nancy Benay
Designer/Editor: Christine Aschan
caaschan@uci.edu | 949-824-9045

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

Orchid photos courtesy of Tina Coombe.

Member in the News

Exciting news for Tina Coombe, NHOS resident photographer, who garnered a first place award in the adult division for her photo "Tulip Field." Congratulations, Tina.

August Orchid Round Table

Once again, Mary Kermani has graciously offered to host this month's Orchid Round Table. It's scheduled for Saturday, August 21, at 9:30 am. For those of you who enjoy bromeliads and tillandsias, Mary and her husband have a lovely collection which they display in very artful and original ways. In addition, Mary's orchid area is undergoing a redesign and should be ready for the unveiling on the 21st.

Please bring breakfast items to share and your blooming orchids to talk about. Mary's address is 19642 Sacramento Lane, Huntington Beach, 92646, phone 714-963-1919. From the 405, take the Euclid exit and turn right on Euclid, Euclid becomes Ellis, continue on Ellis, turn left on Newland, cross Yorktown, turn left on Carson which takes you to Sacramento

Please note that at the July NHOS Board meeting members voted to schedule the monthly orchid round table meetings for the Saturday following the general monthly meetings, which is either the third or occasionally the fourth Saturday of the month.

August Refreshments

The members beginning with **Lois and Bud Hayward** through **Bob Laughlin** are asked to provide refreshments for the August meeting. Thank you!

AOS Update

In a recent letter to AOS members, Chris Rehmann, the new President of the AOS, announced that 'trustees approved the establishment of a task force to investigate the sale of the headquarters building. In addition, adjustments were made to the 2010-2011 budget to balance anticipated cash flow. Further Mr. Rehmann explains that the overhead cost associated with the building and gardens have diverted funds from the primary mission of the Society. The trustees believe that it is in the long-term best interest of the members to make these changes. The facility will continue with a full schedule of events and activities during the process.

Installation Banquet Awards and Pix

And the Winner is...

2009-10 Ribbon Judging Awards

Regular Awards

1st place

Lynn Wiand

2nd place

Dorothy Goldberg

3rd place

Joe Rupp

Novice Award: Tina Coombe

Judges Awards

1st place

Lynn Wiand

2nd place

Dave Smith

3rd place (tie) **Lily Hara and Nancy Benay**





Mark Your Calendars...

Saturday, August 7, 2010: Palomar Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction. Preview at 11 am, Auction at 12 pm..
Location: Woman's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad, CA 92008. <http://palomarorchid.org/default.aspx>.

Saturday, August 7, 2010: California Sierra Nevada Speaker's Day, Saturday, August 7, 2010, 9 am-5 pm. Featured speakers include Glenn Decker, Piping Rock Orchids, Ron McHatton, CEO of the American Orchid Society, and Marguerite Webb, J & L Orchids. Admission Fee: \$5.00 in advance, \$10.00 at the door for sponsoring societies and AOS members, and \$15.00 general admission. For more information: <http://www.csnjc.org/>

September 18-19, 2010: South Bay Fall Orchid Show and Sale; South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 9027; <http://southbayorchidsociety.com/Show/index.html>

September 25-26, 2010: Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale. South Coast Village. www.fascinationoforchids.com.

October 1-3, 2011: San Diego International Orchid Fair, 16th Annual Show and Sale. 1-5 pm Friday, 9 am-5 pm Saturday, 9 am-4 pm Sunday San Diego Botanic Garden 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas www.sdbgarden.org.

October 15-17, 2010: Southland Orchid Show, Huntington Gardens, 9 am to 5 pm.

January 28-30, 2011: Newport Harbor Orchid Society's Orchid Expo and Sale. Westminster Mall, Westminster, CA. It's early, but mark your calendar. More information to follow.



Nancy Benay
2 Allegheny
Irvine, CA 92620



Address Update Requested