



# ORCHIDS AWEIGH

Newsletter of the NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

October 2014

## President's Message

Salvete,

I'm a member of the AOS (you should be too) and so I receive the monthly AOS publication, *Orchids*. I noticed the September edition's Pronunciation Guide on page 536. It's basically lousy. By that I mean that it doesn't represent pronunciations in Latin or English, though generally it seems closer to English.

The bracketed system does not represent the same sounds with the same set of letters, so it's also not internally consistent. I think it's there to help folks out who feel intimidated with Latin or botanical names or maybe long strange words. There's some irony here as the Guide can't really be considered official or correct.

Botanical Latin derives from the usages of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Swedish botanist, Karl von Linné. Latin reading and writing was common among the educated classes of Europeans from antiquity. "Grammar" school really refers to Latin grammar.

During the Renaissance non-Latin vernacular languages became more important in communication, and Latin use began to taper. Latin (and Greek) roots continued to be used in English language word formation but Latin use in the scientific world per se really died out long ago, except for formalized use in botany.

One of the advantages of Latin for von Linné and others since is that it's "dead". That means it has no speakers who use it as their mother tongue. And that's advantageous because there is no one to change its pronunciation or usage, who has a type of moral authority to do so.

The problem lies in that there are few who bother to learn Latin enough to know its "dead" pronunciation rules. So most folks just apply the rules of their native language on plant names. That produces a lot of inconsistency, even for just the pool of English speakers, as there is significant inconsistency in the writing system of English alone. And that's OK, because Botanical Latin is basically intended as a

## Culture Class

Join **Terry Root** for a class on slipper orchid culture.

written language anyway; most of us don't have scientific or classical language backgrounds. Even better, English can be used to publish botanical descriptions officially now. So only the actual name itself needs to be latinized.

Names and languages are social phenomena. The best strategy in pronunciation is to copy other people in the orchid community. Monthly speakers and other experts can be aped, if you like. If you really want to snob it up, you can look into *Botanical Latin* by William T. Stearn. It's a standard academic work on the subject. Personally, I wouldn't worry about the names. Say them as seems fit to you. We grow orchids for the flowers, anyway.

Valete,

Tom Harrison  
NHOS President

## October Speakers

### Samantha & Terry Root "Phragmipedium Species and Hybrids Bred by the Orchid Zone"

Our October speakers are back for an encore, two years already having passed since their last appearance. Their topic this time will be the *Phragmipedium* species and hybrids as bred by the Orchid Zone.

Although the Roots no longer own the Orchid Zone, they still look over the business in an advisory capacity. Mostly known internationally for their *Phrag* hybridizing, they also had a lot to do with the

popularization of *Phrag*s internationally, especially with *Phrag. besseae* and *Phrag. schlimii* crosses and improving the species and more recently with *Phrag. kovachii* hybrids.

Terry is presently enjoying his retirement by playing with his home-made model planes and breeding cats (Would you pay thousands of dollars for breeding a pair of cats?). Samantha is still working for the corporate world.

They will provide the plant table. The last time they brought in an exceptional table of extremely fine quality; undoubtedly it will be filled with some of their fine *Phragmipedium*s. Buy tickets! This is a program



not to be missed. We're lucky to get them, since they rarely give society talks.

Our society will host them for dinner at Mimi's Restaurant facing Harbor Blvd., across from the Costa Mesa Community Center, at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday of the meeting, but please RSVP Norito by Sunday, October 19.

Norito Hasegawa  
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.

## From the Editor's Desk

Dear Friends,

First I would like to thank Tom Harrison for having edited the September issue of *Orchids Aweigh* in my absence; I greatly appreciated his help. September seems to find me on the road, and this September is no exception. Since August 28th Phyllis Prestia and I have been gallivanting around the Southern Hemisphere, first the tropical rain forests and highland rain forests of Madagascar.

We experienced many adventures to view orchids in their native habitats and took almost every form of transportation: plane, bus, river boat, four-wheel drives, and

naturally by foot. You name it; we took it, with the one exception being the local ox carts pulled by unruly oxen, and for that I am thankful. We sloshed in the mud, slipped and slid our way up and down trails, climbed uneven steps over gullies and streams, sometimes focussed on the canopy and tree trunks, looking for epiphytic orchids, and at other times shifting our eyes downwards in the hunt for terrestrial orchids.

We were definitely not disappointed and almost always physically challenged. At last count we saw well over 100 species, and many that were in bloom. Factor in the chameleons and lemurs that inhabit Madagascar's rain forests, and you have a small idea of what we saw.

Thanks to Harold Koopowitz, whose expert eyes spotted orchids and other plants that we would have missed. It did not take him long to go into professorial mode our first day out in the city of Tamatave, sharing his encyclopedic botanical knowledge, which we greatly appreciated.

Let me end here by saying that Madagascar proved to be a very humbling experience given the extreme poverty that so many Malagasy people live in. To see it is to understand why the rainforests have been destroyed for the survival of its people.

Nancy Benay  
Editor, *Orchids Aweigh*

## Refreshments

Members from **Laura and Ken Perry** to **Louise Winders** are asked to provide refreshments for the meeting.

Thank you!

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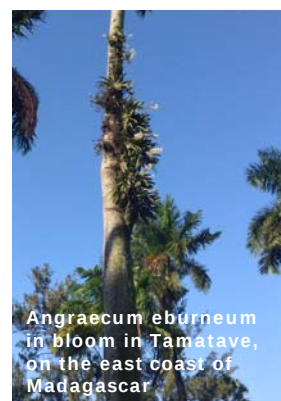
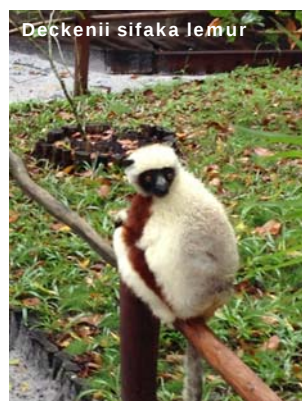
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Orchid photos courtesy of Tina Coombe.



## In Memoriam: Jane Brecht

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Jane Brecht in Colorado earlier this month. Jane was the wife of Paul Brecht, founding member and president of the NHOS.

Up until a few years ago Jane was active in other area orchid societies and activities. In late March of this year she suffered a fall that resulted in cracked ribs and the compression fracture of a vertebrae. As a result, Jane spent a significant amount of time in hospitals and skilled nursing homes trying to recover from the fall, which took both a physical and mental toll on her.

In August her daughters, Polly Juneau and Molly Polidoroff, moved their mother to Colorado, per her wishes. Jane passed away peacefully in her sleep on September 15. She was 95 at the time of her death. There will be no funeral, but rather a private family graveside service.

Should you wish to remember Jane, donations can be made to the DCB Foundation for the Brecht Floriculture Scholarship, c/o Dakota College at Bottineau, 105 Simrall Blvd., Bottineau, ND 58318. The Brechts established the fund in 1986 and over the years a number of students have benefited from this financial assistance.

Our sincerest condolences to Polly, Molly, and their family.

## 2014 NHOS Annual Greenhouse & Garden Tour

The Huntington Library and Garden Greenhouse Tour for NHOS members is scheduled on November 1, 2014.

All members who have signed up should plan on meeting at the Huntington no later than 9:30 a.m. We will be meeting

Brandon Tam at the ticket booth. He will be escorting us on a private tour of the Huntington Greenhouse and Orchid Collection.

The tour will take place in the morning, followed by lunch provided by the NHOS. There are currently 15 openings left. Please sign-up at the October meeting or e-mail Dana Seelig at [atarrowbear@gmail.com](mailto:atarrowbear@gmail.com).

# See you in September, see you when the summer's through... September Meeting Photo Gallery



## Membership Corner

After the last two meetings we now have six new members! To those I introduced last month, please add **Julie Ford, Van Anne Pham, and Al Rasch**. Welcome to them all, and they have certainly heard great programs. If you see someone you don't know, say "hello"; you might find a new friend.

Laura Perry  
Membership Secretary



## 2014 September Judging Results

| GENUS POINTS                          | FIRST PLACE<br>5 pts                                   | SECOND PLACE<br>3 pts                        | THIRD PLACE<br>1 pt                         | JUDGES          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>CATTELEYA</b>                      | LC C.G. Roebling<br>Lynn S. Wiand                      | C. Chocolate Digs<br>Merle Robboy            | LC Mini Purple "Princess Road"<br>Earl Felt | Janice Krause   |
| <b>CYMBIDIUM</b>                      | C. dayanum<br>Lynn S. Wiand                            | C. erythrostylum<br>Lynn S. Wiand            | NA                                          | Janice Krause   |
| <b>DENDROBIUM</b>                     | D. tuanauhii<br>Lisa Humphreys                         | NA                                           | NA                                          | Roberta Fox     |
| <b>EPIDENDRUM</b>                     | Enc. Prismaticarum<br>Merle Robboy                     | Enc. Cochleata<br>Lynn S. Wiand              | E. porpax alba<br>Lynn S. Wiand             | Barb Livingston |
| <b>MAXILLARIEAE</b>                   | NA                                                     | NA                                           | NA                                          | NA              |
| <b>ONCIDIUM</b>                       | Tric haematochilum<br>Espie Quinn                      | NA                                           | NA                                          | Lynn S. Wiand   |
| <b>PAPHIOPEDILUM</b>                  | P. diathum<br>Lynn S. Wiand                            | P. Magic Lantern<br>Lynn S. Wiand            | Phrag. Hanne Popow<br>Nico Goossens         | Bill Fogarty    |
| <b>PHALAENOPSIS</b>                   | P. Taisuco Firedird 'Flare'<br>Lisa Humphreys          | NA                                           | NA                                          | Roberta Fox     |
| <b>PLEUROTHALLID</b>                  | NA                                                     | NA                                           | NA                                          | NA              |
| <b>VANDA</b>                          | Ascf. Twinkle<br>Winn Winmaw                           | Neofinetia falcata<br>Ha Bui                 | Ascf. Twinkle<br>Espie Quinn                | Peter Yang      |
| <b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>                  | Bulbo. lasiochilum<br>X B. anrandalei<br>Nico Goossens | Stenoglotis Venus 'Iambora'<br>Kayoko Nebrig | Bulbo. Tingabarinum<br>Lisa Humphreys       | Winn Winmaw     |
| <b>POINTS</b>                         | <b>3 pts</b>                                           | <b>2 pts</b>                                 | <b>1 pt</b>                                 |                 |
| <b>NOVICE</b>                         | NA                                                     | NA                                           | NA                                          | NA              |
| <b>CULTURAL AWARD WINNER—7 points</b> |                                                        | <b>LC C.G. Roebling</b>                      | <b>Lynn S. Wiand</b>                        |                 |



## Mark Your Calendars...

**Friday-Sunday, October 3-5: Andy's Orchids Fall Open House.** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 734 Ocean View Ave., Encinitas, CA 92024. More information: [www.andysorchids.com](http://www.andysorchids.com).

**Saturday-Sunday, October 4-5: San Diego International Orchid Fair.** San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas, CA. More information: [www.sdbgarden.org](http://www.sdbgarden.org).

**Saturday-Sunday, October 4-5: Morongo Basin Orchid Festival.** Gubler Orchids. More information: [gublerorchids.com](http://gublerorchids.com).

**Sunday, October 12, 2014: Southern California Orchid Species Society's Annual Auction.** Preview at 12:30 p.m.; auction begins at 1:00 p.m. Backs Community Center, Main Room, Kraemer Memorial Park, 01 Bradford Ave, Placentia, CA. More information: [Socalorchidspecies.com](http://Socalorchidspecies.com).

**Friday-Sunday, October 17-19, 2014: Southland Orchid Show and Sale.** Hours: Friday, noon-4:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. General Admission. The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA. More information: <http://www.huntington.org/WebAssets/Templates/calendardetail.aspx?id=17148>.



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*Address Update Requested*