



ORCHIDS AWEIGH

Newsletter of the NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

January 2015

President's Message

Happy New Year!

Get another pair of eye glasses – is one of several resolutions I'm contemplating. Learn which plants I can kick out of the greenhouse – is another. The greenhouse is getting pretty crowded. I turned sharply at the end of November and cut my cornea on the tip of a Cattleya leaf. I've been wearing protective eye goggles in there since. I mentioned at the Christmas party that I figure the glasses will help my appreciation of the plants and give my eyes a little shielding. **Gen Gundersen** mentioned that a leaf still managed to cut her eye despite the glasses.

Oh well, I'm still going with the glasses. I'm certainly not going to stop getting new plants. I bought five new bare roots through the mail (from Andy's). They were pretty cheap, so I got over my appre-

hensions of buying something sight unseen. I ordered on a Monday morning; the plants arrived early, on Tuesday afternoon. They were mounted and further crowding the greenhouse by Wednesday. Merry Christmas to me! Now which ones do I hang outside?

There was no speaker in December, so I have no pearls of wisdom to review and summarize. I did, however, enjoy the well laden buffet. Thanks again to **Phil, Richard, Rose**, and everybody else for their work to get the food on the table. The simple company of friends was more than adequate to sustain the evening and **Norito** will have a good speaker lined up for January.

My name didn't get called for the plant giveaway particularly early, but I still got a nice plant, Cattleya lobata coerulea. Thanks to **Norito, Rick Wells**, and to **Nancy Benay** for arranging for the plant

Culture Class

Just in time for next month's Orchid Expo: "Orchid Judging Tips." Presenter pending at press time.

give away table. It just amazes me that we're able to do that – just give away a plant to every member who shows up to the Christmas Party.

Of course, Santa didn't just provide the plants. Ultimately they are the result of the success of the Society in fundraising over the past few years. Expo, the Auction, the Summer Sale – these are the well-springs (read: money) of the organization. Expo is coming up in February. Please, please, make the time and volunteer: Contact **Tina Coombe** or **Rosemary Krumme** at the meeting or by phone and get signed up.

Health, beauty and a good spirit to you all,

Tom Harrison
NHOS President

January Speaker

Dr. Mary Gerritsen

"Borneo, Land Beneath the Wind"

Happy start of the New Year to everyone! Please welcome Dr. Mary Gerritsen from San Mateo. Mary is an independent biotechnology consultant who has been growing orchids (mostly species) on and off for more than 30 years.

After moving to the San Francisco Bay area in 1997, she got serious! She has a large collection of small cool growing miniature species such as Masdevallias, Porroglossums, Lepanthes and other assorted tiny gems, and in a second intermediate greenhouse, larger species such as Angraecoids, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Laelias, Phalaenopsis and Bulbophyllums.

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month

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

Mary loves to see orchids growing in situ and has made it her mission over the last few years to see as many as possible, with trips to see and photograph orchids (and other flora as well) in Canada, various states in the USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Brazil, France, Luxembourg, Germany, Mallorca, Rhodes and Crete, Western China, Borneo, Thailand and Australia.



She is the co-author (with friend and well-known photographer, Ron Parsons) of several botanical books: *Masdevallias*, *Gems of the Orchid World*, the two volume *Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species*, and *Calorchortus: Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives*.

Mary is a past president of the Peninsula Orchid Society (San Mateo), the San Francisco Orchid Society and is also a director of the Orchid Conservation Alliance.

She will provide some bulbophyllums for the plant table. I'll try to have her bring some of her books for sale as well. This talk is really on adventures, and it is one that you will not want to miss, I guarantee you. Mary is one of the best speakers on the circuit, and she will mesmerize you with her stories and photos of orchids in the Bornean rainforest.

The dinner for Mary will be at Mimi's Cafe. Please notify me by Monday, January 19th, if you plan to attend.

Keep warm.

Norito Hasegawa
First Vice President

Membership Corner

2014 wound down on a sad note for the NHOS. We lost three of our Founding Members with the deaths of Jane Brecht and Pat Rowland. Now with the passing of Carol Latimer on December 17 we are further saddened. Our best wishes go to all of their families and to those of us who counted on them as good friends. I hope the coming year brings happier times for all of those people who have lost loved ones.

On Saturday, January 17, there will be a "Celebration of Life" for Carol at the Latimer Family Home, and NHOS members are invited. The address is 940 Darrell St., Costa Mesa, CA 92627.

On a somewhat happier line, I talked with Rick Wells, and he says he is feeling much better, and his doctor says he is making great progress. Hope we see him soon along with Bob Latimer spinning the raffle wheel.

Laura Perry
Membership Secretary

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Orchid photos courtesy of Tina Coombe.

Orchids: Jewels of the Jungle

2015 Newport Harbor Orchid Expo is just a month away

Yes, the 2015 Newport Harbor Orchid Expo is coming in one month to the **Westminster Mall, February 13, 14, and 15, 2015.**

The hours are:

Friday February 13, 10am-9pm

Saturday, February 14, 10am-7pm

Sunday, February 15, 11am-6pm



The show will include orchid sales, displays, and repotting workshops (\$5.00 material and plant fee for each participant). Admission is free, parking is free and plentiful, and the mall is also handicapped accessible.

This year's theme is "Orchids: Jewels of the Jungle," and planning is almost complete. We need everyone to please spread the word, encourage and invite family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to come to the show. Fliers are available for those willing to distribute them. An electronic version of the flyer will also be made available to the membership, which we ask that you to share widely.

We are also recruiting lots of volunteers to help make the show a huge success. **Volunteers who work six hours will receive a free t-shirt designed by none other than Ha Bui.**

We need volunteers as follows:

Wednesday, 2/11: 7pm-9pm for set-up

Thursday 2/12: 8am-8pm (four-hour shifts) to help with general set-up activities. We also need volunteers to work shifts throughout the show at the info desk, plant hotel, and display rooms.

Friday, 2/13: 9am-10pm

Saturday, 2/14: 10am-6pm

Sunday, 2/15: 11am-6pm & for clean-up 6pm-9pm.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the January general NHOS meeting.

Also you may contact Tina Coombe at 949-759-1464 or tinacoombe@gmail.com or Rosemary Krumme at 714-892-2278 or Rosegk@verizon.net.

There are never enough ribbon judges, and we encourage your participation. The actual ribbon judging will take place on **Friday, February 13** from 8:30 am to approximately 12 noon. A light continental breakfast will be served as well as a judges' luncheon. Chitsaya and Winn Winmaw are in charge of judging and can be reached at winn_winmaw@yahoo.com.

Thank you in advance to all of you for all your help.

2015 Newport Harbor Orchid Expo Committee.

LAST CALL.....

Our annual auction is little over a month away at our February 17th meeting, and we really need any clean, healthy plants you might be willing to part with.

If you can't bring them the night of the auction, please bring them with you to this month's meeting and I'll be glad to plant sit them until the auction.

Your donation will be greatly appreciated and will help the society pay for speakers and such for the next year.

You can reach me at joerupp@earthlink.net or my cell number 714-329-5155.

Joe Rupp, Second Vice President

Dreaming of an *Orchid* Christmas at the 2014 Holiday Potluck!



Refreshments

Members from **Kay Firebaugh** to **Jack Kittrell** are asked to provide refreshments for the meeting.

Thank you!

Orchid Plant Clearance Sale

Saturday and Sunday
January 24 & 25, 2015
10AM - 3:30PM

The Rowland Collection is having
a **FINAL CLEARANCE SALE!**

12446 Georgian Street
Garden Grove, CA 92841

Cymbidiums, Dendrobiums, Paphs,
Cattleyas, Mounted Plants,
Bromiliads, Clivias, and More
including Miniature Cymbidiums

This may be your very last chance to own
a piece of this World Famous Collection!

For More Information and or Directions Call:
Theo (714) 345-6578 or Roberta (949) 735-0699

Culture Corner

Treating Scale and Bugs

Controlling scale in an orchid collection can be problematic, and this year it seems to have been worse with our heat and drought. There are a number of good insecticides and pesticides on the market that you can use to eliminate the problem. You may want to try the following regimen suggested by Dr. Phyllis Prestia, AOS and CSA Training Judge, and NHOS member as she has had success in "debugging" her orchids by using alternating applications of several pesticides, even if they have similar ingredients.

These include: Bayer Advanced 2 in 1 Systemic Rose & Flower Care (liquid), Merit 2F Insecticide, Prokoz Zenith 2F Insecticide, and Orthene 97 Spray. The secret is to drench your plants and to apply regularly depending on the season. During the winter apply every two months and in the summer every six to eight weeks depending on conditions.

Another tip from Phyllis: if you grow "rainforest" orchids that require a very moist environment such as Angraecoids, Masdevallias, Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums, she suggests using a three-part recipe for the growing medium: equal parts of fine fir bark, perlite, and sphagnum moss that has been cut up into small pieces.

Editor's note: If you have any good cultural tips please submit them for publication in the newsletter.



Mark Your Calendars...

Saturday–Sunday, January 17-18: 59th Paphiopedilum Guild Meeting and 1st World Slipper Conference, Hilo, HI. Sponsored by *Orchid Digest*. More information: www.orchiddigest.org.

Wednesday, January 21: Orange County Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Auction. Starts at 6:30 p.m. More information: www.OCOS.net or Edie Gulrich, 714-991-8661, egulrich@att.net; or Susan Scheffler, 714-777-9553, chefinyl@gmail.com.

Saturday-Sunday, January 24-25: The Rowland Collection Orchid Plant Clearance Sale. 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. 12446 Georgian Street, Garden Grove, CA 92841. For more information: Theo, 714-345-6578 or Roberta, 949-735-0699.

Friday–Sunday, February 13-15: NHOS Spring 2015 Orchid Expo “Orchids: Jewels of the Jungle”. Event will be held at Westminster Mall, CA. More information: www.NHOSinfo.org

Friday–Sunday, February 20-22: The Thrill of Discovery. Sponsored by San Francisco Orchid Society, Pacific Orchid Exposition. More information: www.orchidsanfrancisco.org.

Friday–Sunday, March 13-15: 70th Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. Event will be held at Earl Warren Show Grounds in Santa Barbara, CA. More information to follow.



Richard Hara
10749 La Terraza Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA



Address Update Requested