



ORCHIDS AWEIGH

Newsletter of the NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

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

January 2017

President's Message

Happy New Year! It's always my favorite time of year for orchids. The Cymbidiums are blooming in masses of colors and the Paphiopedilums are happily blooming and welcoming the New Year with their cute little faces. I love the display of Paphiopedilums grouped together because they look like their singing – like something from Alice in Wonderland!

Our end of the year Holiday Party was a great success! **Phil Duke** and his elves, **Rose Nakabara, Rick and Arlene Wells**, worked hard to make the room festive and provided delicious tamales and accompaniments. **Ron DeWilde** organized our holiday membership gifts – Cattleyas in bud - from Sandy at Tuyet's. **Richard and Lily Hara**, our hospitality chairs, are always working behind the scenes to organize drinks, utensils and making sure we have all that we need for our meetings. There were some beautiful orchids and orchid related items for our gift exchange and the potluck items were plentiful and delicious! It was a great evening for our farewell to the community center with a slideshow to reminisce over the events we've done as a membership over the last few years.

This month we are having a special "Welcome Home" party on Tuesday, January 17th **7:30 p.m.**, at our new meeting site: Costa Mesa Senior Center at 695 W. 19th Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627. NHOS will be providing munchies for everyone so come relax, enjoy and check out our new digs! We will have plant judging, so bring your plants in bloom.

Don't forget! It's coming up fast! February 10-12, 2017 is the NHOS Orchid Expo "Ride the Orchid Wave" The Orchid Expo planning committee is meeting every month preparing for this BIG event. Ron

DeWilde has designed the t-shirts and artwork this year and they are awesome! If you are interested in volunteering for a shift or two, **Rosemary Krumme** is coordinating sign-ups @ rosegk@verizon.net and will have the forms at meetings. To earn your free t-shirt, please volunteer a minimum of six hours. We appreciate your help!

See you at the general meeting for a "Welcome" celebration in January.

Sincerely,

Darla Miller, NHOS President

Please note: Change of date for Board of Directors meeting, Thursday, January 12, 2017, 7:00 p.m., at Sherman Gardens.



"Welcome to Our New Home" Party

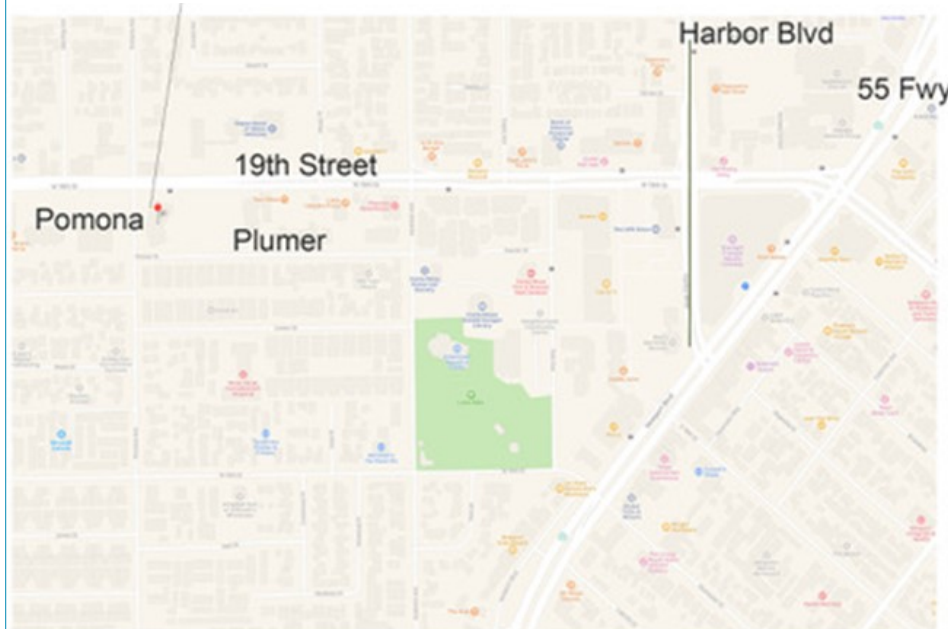
Be sure to come to our January meeting to check out our new venue.

At the January 2017 meeting, food will be provided by Newport Harbor Orchid Society. We will have our usual orchid ribbon judging (so bring your plants that are in bloom!) and an informal panel for orchid question and answer. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m.

New NHOS Site
Costa Mesa Senior Center
(Redemption Church)
695 W. 19th Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

New Location

Old Location



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

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

LAST CALL.....

Our annual auction is little over a month away, at our February 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 till 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
cell phone 714-329-5155.

Regards,
Joe Rupp



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One-year Term (expires 2016)
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Orchid photos courtesy of Tina Coombe.

Ride the Orchid Wave

The NHOS February 2017 Orchid Expo is just a month away!

Yes, the Newport Harbor Orchid Society 2017 Orchid Expo is coming in one month to the Westminster Mall, February 10, 11, & 12, 2017.

The hours are:

Friday, February 10 10am-9pm
Saturday, February 11 10am-7pm
Sunday, February 12 11am-6pm

The show will include: orchid sales, orchid displays, and a bonsai display. Re-potting workshops will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at 2 pm. There is a \$6.00 fee to cover the cost of the plant and materials. You can sign up in advance at nhosinfo.org/orchidshow. Scroll down to the form and fill out.

Admission is free, parking is free and plentiful, and the mall is also handicap accessible.

This year's theme is "Ride the Orchid Wave". Plans are almost complete and we need all members to spread the word. Please invite family members, friends, neighbors and co-workers to come to the Expo. Fliers are available for anyone willing to distribute them.

We need all of you great volunteers to help make the show a huge success. **Volunteers who work six hours or more will receive a free t-shirt** designed this year by Ron DeWilde.

We need volunteers starting on

We need volunteers on the following dates and times:

Wed 2/8 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
For set up.

Thurs 2/9 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Three-hour shifts. For set up of displays and to assist vendors.

Fri 2/10 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sat 2/11 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun 2/12 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Three-hour shifts at the info desk, plant hotel, and display rooms.

Sun 2/12 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
For clean-up.

Ribbon judges are needed on Friday, 2/10, 8am-11am. If you volunteer as a judge, you need to work three more hours to get a t-shirt.

NHOS Members who plan to sell their orchids at **Member Sales** must sign up to volunteer. Please contact Joe Rupp at 714-329-5155 or Joerupp@earthlink.net.

Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at the January general NHOS meeting or you may contact Rosemary Krumme at 714-892-2278 or Rosegk@verizon.net.

Thank you, in advance, to all volunteers for your help.

Rosemary Krumme

Newport Harbor Orchid
Expo Committee

Newport Harbor Orchid Society Orchid Expo & Sale 2017



Orchid Displays
Vendor Sales
Re-potting Classes
Botanic Art & Bonsai Exhibit

February 10, 11 & 12
Westminster Mall
Orange County, CA

Friday: 10am-9pm
Saturday: 10am-7pm
Sunday: 11am-6pm



www.nhosinfo.org/orchidshow

Cypripedium montanum

By Sophie Miller

For as long as I can remember, I have spent endless summers gardening with my family and hot afternoons exploring the chaparral trails behind our house. Since the age of three, I have gone to Yosemite nearly every winter, spring, and summer and wallowed in the grand collomia, the mountain azalea, and striped coral root orchids.

I made discoveries under rotting logs and on stream islands. It was my stage for make-believe, my frontier to tiptoe through; touching, smelling, and drawing as I filled the pages of my memory and my sketchbook. I made friends among the flora and grew acquainted with new species, learning to recognize their faces and recount their life's stories.

When I was 13, my grandfather – gardener and always the teacher – gave me John Muir Laws' beautifully detailed guide to the wildlife of the Sierra Nevada. I spent hours poring over the pages, reading myself to sleep at night with fairytales of wild California orchids and illustrations of fantastical fungi. The book became my constant companion on my forays into the hilly chaparrals of southern California and my expeditions in the varied forests and valleys of Yosemite.



I identified old acquaintances and finally put names to their faces, my repertoire grew as I walked my way through the pages of

the book. I found many new and exciting plants with the aid of Laws' guide, but I also became aware of some species that I had never seen outside the pages of the guide.

Also known as the Mountain Lady's Slipper, *Cypripedium montanum* is native to the Northwestern United States. The flow-

er's belly is white, with delicate veins of purple spreading to its lip. The sepals and petals are maroon fading to green towards the center of the flower. Each plant has one to three flowers and is often found in colonies located in forest clearings where the conditions for growth – including shade, light, and bacteria in the soil – are just right.

Every summer and spring in Yosemite, I would hike around my grandmother's cabin in Wawona looking for the mountain lady's slipper. I found many other fantastic plants on these explorations, but no slippers. A few years ago, one of the families from the gardens where my mom works began to join us on our Yosemite summer trips. Scott, his wife Kara, their daughter Lilly, my mother and I would head off together and explore the slopes and streams. My friend Alexis, Scott and I hiked nearly 15 miles up and down a waterfall, hoping to find the slippers. Later, we realized that we had been looking in all the wrong places – too dry, too high, and not enough shade.

The next year, Scott decided to conduct more research before heading out to hunt for orchids. He showed me an article he had found, and I started to laugh – people had reported seeing the orchid in the meadow less than five minutes from my grandmother's cabin.

Although the sun was setting and clouds of mosquitos were darkening the sky, we all decided to head out. I was so excited at the prospect that I chattered excitedly on the journey to the meadow. We arrived and began to walk the loop, scanning the slopes and ditches for any orchid-like vegetation. We found false Solomon's seal, trilliums (which are the subject of a whole 'nother story), and wild ginger.

The mosquitos were whining in our ears and biting through our clothes as the sunset began to fade, darkness fell, and the humidity grew oppressive. We continued searching with flashlights, scanning the clearings, until we decided to turn around. We would head home, nurse our bug bites, and try again later.

Just as we were turning to leave, Scott stopped and pointed, "That's it." I froze and followed his gesture. I could see them, small spots of white glowing faintly in the dim light of the fading sun, like ghosts hovering above the forest floor. Scott and I began dancing around, laughing and screaming and high-fiving. Then we rushed to the edge of the trail, fell to our knees and stared at the flower we had looked so long to find.



In the light of my headlamp, I saw that there were three plants clustered off the side of the trail. I couldn't believe I was finally seeing it in person. The flower's cup looked like white velvet with fingers of dark purple-red and the petals were maroon, with hints of brown and green. I was breathless. It was so beautiful. And we had managed to find them at the peak of their bloom. Each flower was fresh and radiant. I grinned so fiercely my face hurt as I took photos.

Then Kara, a couple feet up the trail, called, "There are more." We ran over to her and Scott and I laughed like loons. There were hundreds of slippers orchids in the clearing about twenty feet off the trail. We walked to them and stood in the field surrounded by our favorite flowers. It was like a dream.

That night, I dreamed of orchids. Of standing in that field surrounded by them. I wish my grandfather had been there to see it – he would have loved it, would have loved the rush of discovery and the awe of seeing something so unique. It was such an incredible experience; even now, months later, I find myself smiling whenever I think of it or look at the pictures (or show the pictures to anyone who sits still long enough).

The gang's all here at the 2016 holiday fete!





Mark Your Calendars...

January 18, 2017: Annual Orchid Auction hosted by Orange County Orchid Society. Yorba Linda Public Library Community Room (lower level), 18181 Imperial Hwy, Yorba Linda, CA. More information: Edie Gulrich egulrich@att.net or Susan Scheffler chefinyl@gmail.com.

February 10-12 (Friday through Sunday): “Ride the Orchid Wave” hosted by the Newport Harbor Orchid Society. Westminster Mall, 1025 Westminster Mall (Macy’s Wing) Westminster, CA. Orchid displays by vendors and societies, vendor sales, re-potting classes all three days, Botanic Art and Bonzai Exhibit. More information: <http://nhosinfo.org/orchidshow/>.

February 21 (Tuesday General Meeting): Ron Capps Memorial Annual Orchid Auction hosted by Newport Harbor Orchid Society. At new meeting venue (Costa Mesa Senior Center) More information: www.nhosinfo.org.

Ongoing Saturdays, January 7 & 28, February 4 & 18: Hatfield Orchids Cymbidium Sale at Yamada Company. 706 W. Gardena Blvd, Gardena, CA 90247. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hands on potting demonstration at 11:00 am. More information: 310-327-5668.

Check out our NHOS website for the latest information on orchid and other botanical events:
<http://nhosinfo.org/events/>.



Richard Hara
10749 La Terraza Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA



Address Update Requested