



Blc. Picotee Passion 'Sunset Valley Orchids'
AM/AOS (82 points)

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

“Orchids for Amateurs”

Founded July, 1957

The

INFLORESCENCE

August, 2006

Web site: www.southbayorchidsociety.com

August Meeting:

Friday, July 18, 2006

8:00 PM

South Coast Botanic Garden

26300 Crenshaw Blvd.

Palos Verdes Peninsula

Speaker

Fred Clarke—Sunset Valley Orchids

Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for 29 years and has been hybridizing for 19 of those years. With more than 22 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery near San Diego.

He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing *Cattleya* hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new *Bulbophyllum* and *Paphiopedilum* hybrids.

Fred is going to talk to us about the *Mossiae* subgroup of *Cattleyas*. These are the subgroup that bloom in the spring and have the lovely rose-lavender color with yellow on the lip—the classic *Corsage Orchid* since they bloom around Easter and around graduation time and prom time. This was the second unifoliate subgroup of *Cattleyas* discovered after *Cattleya labiata*.

Come listen to Fred and see some absolutely gorgeous flowers.

Nick

C. mossiae ‘Mother of
Snows’



Culture Session—7:00 PM

Fred Clark will also be giving us a culture session on potting and how he gets seedlings up to blooming size. He has a graduation in pot size and potting medium that he uses as a commercial grower that he is going to demonstrate and teach all of us about.

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President's Message

Another month gone by—hot as *&\$# - hope everyone's plants weathered this and came through with better blooms this year. The hot orchids should have done especially well this year. Speaking of blooms—hopefully this weather has brought out enough flower in all of our plants that our Fall Show will be spectacular. Marla already has several vendors signed up, and this fall is looking to be at least as good as last fall, but we need lots of plants in bloom. Look for Marla's notice about the Show later in this newsletter.

We are also considering some changes to the way that we do ribbon judging at the meetings, to try to get more people to bring in plants. Joan Bailey has suggested a new way of doing the ribbon judging that reduces the number of classes of competitors and also brings the Exhibitors back into the competition. Please read what Joanie provided on Page 5 and talk to her about her ideas at the meeting Friday.

I also want to add my congratulations to Thamina Haque. She has been promoted from Probationary Judge to Accredited Judge as of this coming October. This is a very difficult thing to accomplish, and it takes hard work and dedication. Well done Thamina and again—CONGRATULATIONS.

Those of you that have not paid your dues this year will be getting a call from Susann in the near future. If you don't want to be hounded, please remember to bring your checkbook to the meeting on Friday.

And, please come to the meeting this Friday so that we have a quorum. We are going to vote on the minor By-Law changes that we provided to the membership a few months ago. We tabled this issue a few months back, and it's time to finally put this to bed.

Finally, hopefully no one in the Society is as embarrassed as I am about the PA system up at the Gardens. Well, this month the Board decided to do something about this, and we are now the proud owners of a very nice—used (I love eBay) - portable high power PA system. The manufacturer of the system is right here in Torrance (Anchor Audio) so parts and repair should be a snap if we ever need to get them fixed. I've tested both the PA system and the additional speaker that came with it, and both work great.

See you Friday, Ned

Wanted-Any and all photos of your blooms for the newsletter. We all enjoy seeing what our members have bloomed. We also need blooming plants for our Fall Show and the Southland Show.

This beauty was grown by Ron Henry
and
Photographed by Ron Henry

Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz
Delenati x Malipoense



**‘Celebrating 50 Years’
An Orchid Show and Sale
September 23 and 24, 2006**

Our fall show is coming soon and planning is well underway. Vendors are signing up and publicity is getting out, but to make this show a success your society needs your help. We have members who have volunteered to be team leaders and they need you to sign up to work.

Set-up: Takes place on Friday morning before the show at 9:00. This involves setting up and arranging tables as well as draping of the display tables. We will also need people with trucks to help bring things from storage on Thursday. Call Ron Henry at (310) 374-9699.

Host and Hostess: People are needed throughout the show hours to talk to our guests and answer questions they may have. This position is also important for security. You need to make sure no one touches the plants or walks off with one. (Plant theft is a serious problem at some shows.) This position also includes the “plant hotel” table where people can check purchased plants, since they are not allowed in the judging area. Call Marilyn Hill (310) 675-0604 or Sue Estes at (310) 377-0773.

Food: Lots of food is needed to feed our hungry volunteers and vendors throughout the show. If you are bringing food on Sunday, it needs to be there by 11:30 am. Call Shirley Marble (310) 379-0855.

Take-down: Will take place right after the show closes. We need everyone to pitch in and help to make this job go quickly. Again, Ron will need trucks to take things back to storage on Monday. Call Ron Henry at (310) 374-9699.

Publicity: Don Goss is in charge of publicity. Everyone can help by putting up posters and passing out flyers in their neighborhoods. Flyers and posters will be available at the August meeting.

Plant Registration: Registration will take place on Friday in the auditorium beginning at 4:00pm and ending at 9:00pm. I hope everyone will bring in their blooming plants for judging. I have noticed that some of the best plants have been in the novice category so don’t be shy about putting your plants in the show for ribbon judging. All we ask is they have been in your possession for a minimum of 3 months and be free of pests and disease. We will have AOS and CSA judging for those of you with exceptional plants in bloom.

Sign up sheets will be available at the August meeting or you can call the team leaders directly. Volunteering a few hours of your time is a great way to get to know your fellow society members and we always have a good time. Call me if you have any questions about the show or the volunteer positions.

Marla Corey, show chair (310) 833-1918

4N - WHAT IS A TETRAPLOID ORCHID?

Susann Patton

Most of us (you and I) have two sets of chromosomes. One set from our mother and one set from our father. Through modern breeding techniques some orchids now have double sets, or four sets of chromosomes rather than the usual two sets. You will see these referred to as "tetraploid". This is as opposed to what you and I are, which are called "diploid", meaning two sets of chromosomes. Likewise plants with two sets of chromosomes—the usual number nature gives both animals and plants—are also called "diploid". When three sets of chromosomes are present the plant is "triploid". Plants with any number of extra sets of chromosomes are called "Polyploid". Though not as common there may be five, six and even higher levels of 'polyploids' or what are actually called ploidy. These are of less interest in orchid breeding. Duploid or 'dup' has its root meaning in latin and greek, as in 'duo' means two, 'tres' means three and 'tetra' means four... When breeding these plants you get a mix of the resulting offspring will have the following ploidy levels. $4N \times 4N \rightarrow 4N$ and $4N \times 2N \rightarrow 3N$ Note that 3N crosses tend to produce very low flower yields and may be sterile.

A very few tetraploid plants occur as genetic accidents naturally. The rest are produced by man by treating orchids with chemicals. During cell division the two sets of chromosomes in a normal cell replicate to produce double sets of chromosomes then these chromosomes go to opposite ends of the nucleus. Next the nucleus divides followed by the cell dividing to form two cells. Each cell ends up with one set of chromosomes. We treat the cells that are ready to divide with colchicine to interrupt this cell division. Colchicine causes the chromosomes to return to their resting state rather than migrating to opposite ends of the nucleus. If colchicine is used after chromosomes have replicated but before the nucleus divides, all four sets of chromosomes will return to a resting state and the cell division will end with four sets in one cell. The cell will be tetraploid.

If done correctly colchicine treatment of plants in a flask results in a large percentage of tetraploid (4N) plants with flowers that are greatly superior to the original diploid (2N) plant. Bigger, better flowers! Isn't that what we all want?

For those of you buying flasks that have had colchicine treatments it is important when purchasing to buy only from suppliers or growers with a proven track record of success and very high yields from their colchicine treatment processes. Successful treatment assures high conversion rates and very few plants with genetic damage. Genetic damage from improper treatment can result in orchids with low vigor or deformed leaves, roots, or flowers.

ORCHID TIPS: Crown rot treatment.

Susann Patton

Crown rot can be a problem especially in the monopodial orchids like the Phalaenopsis and Vanda. Crown rot is caused by letting water sit in the folds between leaves, resulting in a bacterial or fungal infection, or even both. Prevention is the key, so water or mist early in the day so the leaves have time to dry by nightfall. If you do get a case of crown rot try this:

1. Directly pour a liberal amount of undiluted hydrogen peroxide in the wound and let it stand for about five minutes to kill the infecting agents. If rot is present it will bubble as it reacts with the organic matter (fungus or bacteria).
2. Tilt the plant to pour the liquid out of the crown.
3. Let the plant dry completely.
4. Repeat every 3 days until no bubbling occurs.
5. Move the plant to a lower light area as well as keeping it a little drier than normal. Slowly re-acclimate when bringing it back to its normal conditions.
6. Sprinkle with dry cinnamon and keep the wound dry.

The plant may form a keiki and sometimes if the infection is severe the mother plant will die away after forming a keiki, but that will depend on how early you notice the problem.

IT'S PRONOUNCED 'KAY-KEE'

Susann Patton

I got a call this month about some abnormal growth appearing along a dendrobium pseudobulb or stalk. I thought, by the description that we were dealing with keikis; which turns out to be a very natural process used by orchids to reproduce and not abnormal at all.



Keiki is the Hawaiian word meaning baby and has been adopted in the orchid culture to mean small plantlet. A more exact definition of a Keiki is a baby plant produced asexually by an orchid plant (no mixing up of the chromosomes here). The keiki will be an exact replica of the mother plant. There are a couple types of keikis depending on where they appear. A **regular keiki** is a small plant produced at the side of the plant or on an inflorescence after flowering. A **basal keiki** is a baby plant growing from the base of the mother plant. Sometimes keikis bloom while still attached to the mother plant. The trigger for this type of growth is the accumulation of growth hormones at that point. This can

be either natural (as in this case) or it can be induced by the application of keiki paste which is a concentrated form of the correct growth hormones. In this case these were baby plants produced on an aerial portion of a dendrobium cane. If the roots appear at the base of the plant near the region where the canes all come together, then it is a new shoot, not a keiki.

The most common types of orchids to produce keikis are Dendrobiums, Vandas, Oncidiums, Epidendrums and the Phalaenopsis. I have also heard of them on Catasetums, so there are probably many others that form keikis, especially with all of the mixing of the genera for breeding. Many times they start as a small leafy growth and will resemble a new inflorescence. I was fooled for a while this year when my Vanda put out a keiki. I was really hoping for blooms, but it turned out to be a keiki instead. If you want to produce another plant from this growth, you will need to wait until the roots get to be about 2 inches in length. For regular keikis cut below and above the stem, leaving a small portion of the stem on the new plant. The basal keikis may be left on the mother plant until they drop off, but they can also be cut off when the roots are long enough. In both cases the roots need to be about two inches in length. Put them into individual small pots with a good fast draining orchid potting mix and care for them as you do the mother plant. This is a good way to increase the number of plants you have cheaply. They make good gifts to give to friends. A separated keiki can be expected to flower after 18-24 months.



If you have ANY questions, please give me a call and I'll look into it.

Susann

Possible Ribbon Judging Changes

Joan Bailey

We are considering changing Ribbon Judging at the meetings this year. We have found that we have a lot of members in the exhibitor class, in fact more members bringing in plants as Exhibitors than in the other categories. So we are thinking of having only two categories; a newcomer's class and a more advanced class which would include exhibitors. The point system for judging would remain the same: First, Second, Third and Cultural. The top scores at the end of the year would still win a year's subscription to Orchid Digest. A complete list of the new rules will be printed so that everyone will get a chance to comment. We want to get the Exhibitors participating—and we want to inspire our newer growers as well as have a good time at the meetings. So please new grower or long time grower, all are welcome to complete. Please bring your blooming plants in for all to see. My new helpers this year will be new grower Marc Masari and long time grower Thamina Haque. Let me know your thoughts as we make these changes. And, as always, results from the last meeting are on the next page.

People, Places and Things (Like Photos)

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

Meets on the third Friday of each month

Culture Session at 7:00 p.m.

Ribbon Judging at 7:15 p.m.

General Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

South Coast Botanic Garden

26300 Crenshaw Blvd.

Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

Next Board Meeting

August 23, 2006

The Board Meeting this month will be held at a Meeting Room to be announced yet.

The meeting will start at 7:00 PM. Give us a call if you are interested in coming. And, if anyone knows of a room, call me—Ned

Wanted: Orchids in bloom: Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, October 20-22, 2006. We need orchids from our society to put into a display at this show. This is where we can really shine and show 'em what we got. Judging will available, so if you have something in bloom don't miss out.
Contact Joan Bailey : 1-310-835-9614

Results of Ribbon Judging for June 2006

First, I would like **Congratulate** Thamina Haque Who has just been promoted to a Fully Accredited Judge with the AOS. It takes many years to reach this position. Years of studying and going to the shows and Judging Centers at you own time and expense. So be sure to give your **Congratulations** to her when you see her also. **YOU GO GIRL!**

Ribbon	Plant	Exhibitor
Novice	Phalaenopsis	Joan Bailey judge
	1 Evergreen-spring king	Sue Estes
	2 Cirr.makayanum	Pete Wood
Amateur	Cattleya	Thamina Haque judge
	1 Epicat. El Hatillo "Pinta"	Jim Rowley
	2 Encyclia garciana	Jim Rowley
	3 Encyclia Green Hornet	Vallie McCray
Amateur	Disa	Thamina Haque judge
	1 Kristenbach Pride	Vallie McCray
	2 uniflora	Jim Rowley
	3 Riverside	Jim Rowley
Amateur	Other	Thamina Haque judge
	1 Phal B 8953	Bobby Ignacio
	2 Rynovanda Colmaire "Hildos"	Vallie McCray
	3 Neofinetia falcata "Higashidemiyako"	Jim Rowley
Amateur	Cultural Award	Thamina Haque judge
	1 Colm Spacacetante "Evelyn"	Bobby Ignacio
Adv Amateur	Phalanopsis	Joan Bailey judge
	1 Inferno X B Cheeks X Carmela Brite Lites	Thamina Haque
	Oncidium	
	1 Kolibri Select	Thamina Haque

The Refrigerator Door
Orchid Show Calendar
September 2006—November 2006

SBOS Committee Chairs:

Librarian:

Raffle Tickets:

Ted and Betty Cornell.....310-327-2826

Refreshments:

Carolyn Gould.....310-546-2133

Shirley Marble.....310-379-0855

Ann McNeely.....310-375-7750

Ribbon Judging:

Joan Bailey..... 310-835-9614

Email:.....jo3bail@aol.com

Jasmine Bashi.....323-299-7770

Beverly Christensen.....323-299-5111

Property Manager:

Ron Henry.....310-374-9699

Meeting Set-up:

David Okihara.....310-324-3211

AOS Liason:

Joan Bailey.....310-541-6692

Southland Representative:

Marilyn Hill.....310-675-0604

Sunshine:

Kathy West.....310-643-8740

Web Site:

Don Goss.....310-316-3595

E-mail.....webmstr@1stinmedia.com

September 3

Central Coast Orchid Society Show

First Presbyterian Church of Newport,
227 NE 12th St.

Newport, OR.

Contact: Elsie Flower, 557 NW 54th Ct.,
Newport, OR 97365; (541) 265-6674.

South Bay Orchid Society Fall Show

Yep, that's ours folks

September 23 and 24, 2006

South Coast Botanical Garden

26300 Crenshaw Blvd.

Palos Verdes Peninsula

Call Marla Corey (310) 833-1918

San Diego International Orchid Fair

Friday, October 13 - Sunday, October 15

AOS/CSA Judging on Friday

Quail Botanical Gardens

230 Quail Gardens Drive

Encinitas, CA

2006 Southland Orchid Show

"All Hallowed Orchids"

Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens,

October 20-22, 2006.

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, CA 91108

(626) 405-2100

Blooming orchids wanted (see Page 6)

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate 47th Annual

Fall Open House & Sale

November 4 and 5

8 AM to 5 PM

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate

1250 Orchid Drive

Santa Barbara, CA 93111

“The Inflorescence”

South Bay Orchid Society

c/o Ned Patton

21816 Barbara Street

Torrance, CA 90503

See You Friday, August 18

BRING BLOOMING PLANTS

Ned