



Lc Dorothy Warne 'Favorite' AM/AOS  
Grown by Tom Renger  
Photographed by Tom Renger

South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

“Orchids for Amateurs”

Founded July, 1957

*The*  
**INFLORESCENCE**

July 2008

Web site: [www.southbayorchidsociety.com](http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com)

**Friday, July 25**

South Coast Botanic Garden

26300 Crenshaw Blvd

Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

**General Meeting Starting at 8 PM**

**South Bay Orchid Society Board:**

**President:**

Tom Renger ..... 310-316-0707  
*tomrenger@roadrunner.com*

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Susan Amini..... 310-541-6363  
*susan\_amini@yahoo.com*

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*peggie@wormington.com*

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Jim Rowley ..... 310-376-3542  
*jrowley1961@yahoo.com*

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*kinsinger@adelphia.net*

**Membership:**

Laura Ciampaglia..... 310-373-5986  
Olga Cutting..... 310-891-3380  
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Don Goss..... 310-316-3595  
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**Directors:**

Nick Braemer ..... 310-560-4384  
Bob Streeter ..... 310-541-8762

**Our Speaker this month is Peter Lin**, who will present a talk on one of his favorite topics: mini species. Peter will share a fast-paced presentation on these diminutive orchids. In addition to their size, mini species, such as mini-cattleya orchids are highly desirable for their many brightly colored flowers. Many mini-cattleyas with proper culture can bloom more than three times a year! One can fit three or four mini-plants in the space occupied by one full size mature plant. In addition, mini-cattleyas are also considered good for beginners. How exciting!

Peter started growing orchids 25 years ago but then stopped to attend school and start a career. It wasn't until about 5 years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again. He is currently a probationary judge with the American Orchid Society and a hybridizer of mini-catts.

Even though Peter's day job at "The Happiest Place on Earth" (Disneyland!) keeps him busy, he finds time to excel in his hobby and care for hundreds of orchids. Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in miniature orchids, both species and hybrids, and has received numerous AOS awards. He maintains a collection of several hundred orchids at his home in Southern California. Many of Peter Lin's orchids grow in three small greenhouses but he also grows in the house under fluorescent lights. Thus, to the benefit of our membership, he can share his expertise in these various growing environments.

Peter will provide the plants for this month's raffle table. The raffle table will contain some nice mini-catts as well some other great plants. Bring your questions and see you there!

**Culture Session** is at 7.00 p.m. Come early for an interesting demonstration by guest speaker Peter Lin. Peter's culture class will demonstrate deflasking and potting techniques.

# President's Message

Welcome to the 2008-2009 new year at the South Bay Orchid Society.



C. Jean Marie Skelly 'Ridgeway'  
Grown by Tom Renger Photo by Tom Renger

Please join us at the 25 July general meeting and meet our three new officers. Our 1<sup>st</sup> VP is Susan Amini; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Peggie Wormington and Membership Eeva Renger. All re-elected officers will be identified, as well, for those not familiar with our leadership.

Tom Renger and his wife Eeva hosted June's board meeting at their home. After brief visits the meeting was called to order. A pleasant meeting discussing and solving potential society problems followed with responsible members willingly accepting solution implementation. If you are planning on coming as a visitor to our next board meeting, please call Sabrina Roque whose phone number is in our directory.

Thank you Marla and your Board of Directors and members for last year's successful year. Marla gave our society's keys to me as the Beefeaters do in the Tower of London. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yeomen\\_Warders](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yeomen_Warders)) This exchange symbolized the transfer of the presidency at our installation dinner. Dr. Streeter was our featured speaker entertaining us with his memorable trip to World Orchid Congress, and despite Giorgio's broken air conditioner, guests enjoyed delicious food and had a good time.

Recruiting new members is a challenging task for the future lifeblood of every organization. Even more important is the retention and the development of new members. We all need to be friendly, supportive and informative through cheerful interactions. Let us go out of our way with our greetings.

If you would like an annual subscription of the Orchid Digest share your blooming plants at our monthly meetings and qualify with the highest scores for the year. Each winning member will receive an annual subscription of the Orchid Digest (a \$32 value). Thanks to Polly and her staff for judging and maintaining the records.

## THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR'S CHANGES:

**TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: (Only ONE day per year).** Starting this month, your help will be requested by page numbers in our Membership Directory. We need people to help David Okihara with the arranging of chairs and tables before each meeting and then, especially after each meeting, stacking the chairs and tables for storage. (See our separate announcement in this Newsletter for **Temporary Employment Opportunity**.) If you are not available for the month noted, you are welcome to help during the next month's meeting. Please don't risk your welfare if you have a health problem.

The president will identify the **PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH** for services above and beyond the call of duty. This month she is Sabrina Roque. She is a dependable self-starter and an excellent Newsletter Editor. The society is privileged to have Sabrina as a member of our Board of Directors.

Tom Renger

## 2007/2008 Year End Judging Results

### Advanced Amateur

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ted and Jackie Johnson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom Renger
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Steve Moeschler

### Amateur

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jerri and Nancy Larsson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Josephine Balboa
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jack & Peggie Wormington
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Larry Bergen
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Bobbie Davidson

All names listed will be given a year long subscription to the Orchid Digest magazine and Jerri & Nancy Larsson will now move to the Advanced Amateur Division for coming in first in the Amateur Division.

Thank you to all of you who brought in your plants to the shows and to the meetings all year long. Growing and showing off our blooming plants is what we're all about.

If you're having trouble blooming your orchids, be sure to come to the 7:00 culture sessions. You're also welcome to bring in plants that are not performing well if you have questions about them.

Finally, a personal note: My mom was visiting from Hawaii this last week. I wanted to share with her the variety of blooms I have growing in the garden and greenhouse and since they are spread out all over, I brought them to her.

I started in the patio with *Epi. prismatocarpum*, *Enc. Serena O'Neill*, and *Enc. cochleanthes*. In the "mid garden" I found a big bright yellow *Sobralia* that I don't have a tag on as well as an untagged yellow *Oncidium* that is very showy, growing next to *Epi parkinsonianum* and *Den. Hsinyung Chrysopense* (*Den. glomeratum* x *Den. chrysopterum*). From there I moved into the greenhouse (a small 12' x 6' structure Jim and I put in 13 years ago) where I found *Paph. chamberlainium*, *Den. antennatum*, *Ascofintia Twinkle* and *Caditia taylori* (one of the smallest orchid flowers I have). I also found *Bulb. echinolabium* (3 blooms that have filled the greenhouse with the wonderful fragrance of rotting flesh!), *Mokara dongparn*, *Cat. Penny Kurado 'Spots'* and *Cym. aloifolium* (a division of a plant my father and I picked out for my mother for her birthday when I was 13).

As you can see, I grow a wide variety of orchid species. Most of them coexist nicely, but occasionally I have a fatality. What's important is that they give me such pleasure! Watering, fertilizing, picking off spent flowers and dead leaves, and even repotting all give me therapy by getting me out amongst my plants. Spend some time caring for these wonderful treasures, and they will repay you over and over again.

Polly Kinsinger  
Judging Chairman



Paph. Claire de Lune 'Edgar Van Belle' AM/AOS  
Grown by: Tom Renger  
Photo by: Tom Renger

## Flasks, Compots and Plugs

By Nick Braemer

Sounds like trains, planes and automobiles. Recently I moved virtually all of the rest of my Orchids to hanging mounts leaving only a few Catts, Aussie Dendrobiums and all of the Cymbidiums on the benches. This led to one of the cardinal sins of Orchid growing namely "Empty Bench Space" EEKS!!! A horror worse than Friday the 13th. Empty bench space is not tolerable under any circumstances, there are no excuses and the situation simply cannot and will not be tolerated.

I looked around [eBay](#) and ran across the "Orchid Flask" page. There flasks are available for variable amounts. I punched in 'View Sellers other Items' and found a page for 'Peaandshel' from Hilo, Hawaii. Turns out to be our old friend "Carmela Orchids" using the eBay name "Peaandshel". They sell flasks, \$25 for two flasks, but seem to be the only ones who in addition list Plugs and Compots. Plugs are in 5 unit and 25 unit lots. I don't have the patience for flasks, so I will mention them no further. Albeit, probably the most economic way to buy Orchids but simply not my cup of tea. Most of the eBay offerings are also available on "Carmela Orchids" web page but the Compots are not. Shipping is also cheaper from eBay unless it is a large order.

### COMPOTS:

\$25 gets you three Compots of a given plant, or you can mix and match, sometimes that's available, other times it is not. All the plugs and Compot plants are fluffy, poodle Cattleya alliance type plants, species are sold by other sellers. The plants in question may be hybrids but are all mericlones so what you see in the photos and what the description promises, is actually what you will get. With an order over \$125 there is a 15% discount, shipping is \$13 for the first item and \$3 for each subsequent order. Keeping this in mind, the cost of the average Compot is around \$8.60. They promise about 15 to 20 plants per Compot. I have unpot- ted a few and found that what you actually get is about 15 good-sized seedlings with one robust 4" growth and smaller growths, in addition about an equal number of runty plants which need to go right back into the same Compot for another year to get larger. Assuming that two out of three of the runts will make it that comes to about 25 plants. For all three Compots in the order we end up with 75 plants, 45 of which should bloom in three years, 30 more in four to five years. Average cost per plant is \$0.33

### PLUGS:

5 unit plugs are \$10 plus \$3 for shipping brings the cost per plant to approx \$2.60. I have yet to order one of these as I don't like the math; however, some nice clones are offered there and are not available any other way, eventually I'll certainly bite.

25 unit plugs are \$28, add \$3 for shipping and you get a cost of approx \$1.25 per plant. They come bare-root, attached to a piece of foam and have at least one or two sturdy growths, 5" or taller. They should bloom in two to three years, looks like they are one year ahead of the Compot plants. I have gotten a number of these and am growing them using different techniques to see what works best.

Since our next meeting's culture session is a deflasking demonstration, this fits right in. I will bring samples of all of the above for your inspection.

Why get all this? The main reason is to fill up empty bench space and occupy idle minds and hands. Secondary reason is economical. In my case, three years from now when some of this stuff begins to bloom, it will find itself on the plant table, the silent auction and on a table in front of my house on any given Saturday morning when we have swarms of 'Garage Sale Hunters' descend upon the neighborhood. By then gas will cost \$10 a gallon and these, by then blooming plants, will keep my Hummer full. I don't actually have a Hummer but you get the idea. "Ahnold" has three Hummers so he bought a big bunch of these plants. He'll be out of office by then but he can only make so much money filming "Terminator 4".

### Looking for partners for Australian orchid purchase.

I am getting an import permit and plan to order a bunch of stuff from Australian Orchid Nursery, see their web page for items of interest. Also check on eBay where they list more. Here is the link: [http://search.ebay.com/\\_W0QQsassZaustrianorchidnursery](http://search.ebay.com/_W0QQsassZaustrianorchidnursery) I'm planning to bring them in legal at a cost of \$175 for documentation. The size of the order does not matter. If anyone would join in and get some of these plants, the cost per plant would decrease.

Nick

Bring a Friend to a Meeting ..... get 5 free raffle tickets!



Unknown cymbidium

### Cymbidium Repotting Workshop

Our society is sponsoring a Cymbidium Repotting Workshop on Saturday July 26 from 2 pm-4 pm at the South Coast Botanic Garden. This event is for the general public, however members are welcome to participate.

Ned and Susann Patton donated their cymbidium collection to our society with

the request these plants be used for educational and membership recruitment purposes. Although, culturally, cymbidium repotting should be completed by now, these plants still need repotting and our participants will gain valuable knowledge for next year. Our members are welcome to participate as students.

We **need experienced members to assist and interact** with the repotting activities. Please phone Tom Renger at 310-316-0707 to sign up for this exciting and rewarding volunteer opportunity. Additionally, don't miss the opportunity to introduce a new friend to the Society.

### New member question:

### How are Orchid Flowers Judged?

By Sabrina Roque

The American Orchid Society [AOS] provides an elaborate and formal point scale to help its judges determine awards for flower quality. The AOS established a separate scale of each of various groups of genera, for example, Cattleya, Cymbidium, Paphs, Dendrobium, Mitonia, Odontoglossum, Phals, Vandas and a general scale for "other" orchid plants.

The score sheet for each genus is grouped into three broad sections for 1) shape (form) of the flower 2) color of the flowers and 3) other characteristics. The total number of points for the combined sections is 100. Depending on the group, each section is assigned a total of 30 points for form, 30 for color and 40 for other characteristics (the paph scale is 40-40-20).

Some criteria for judging form are: fullness, symmetry. The AOS chant: full, round and flat. Size does count. The sepals and the petals are evaluated.

Color is both important and complex. Clear colored flowers are the ideal. However, ambient light, background color, and surface texture are important factors effecting how colors are perceived.

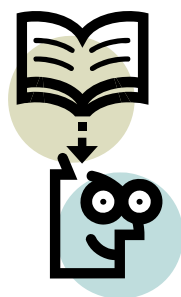
There are various certificates awarded relative to the overall number of points received:

FCC: A First Class Certificate 90-100 points

AM: Award of Merit 80-89 points

HCC: Highly Commended Certificate 75-79 points.

For more detailed information consult Ken Slump, "Recognizing Excellence." Orchids May 2008: 340; Grove, David L. Vandas and Asconendas and their Combinations with other genera. Portland Oregon: Timber Press, 1995. 72-86. Enjoy!



At our next meeting, don't forget to ask Kayo, our librarian, to show you to our library—there are a lot of books on Orchids that you may borrow to increase your knowledge and growing techniques. We even have tapes.

# People, Places and Things

## Next Board Meeting will be July 29, 2008

If you are interested in attending  
please contact Sabrina Roque.

### South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation Events

- July 13 Cactus and Succulent Lecture 1-4pm  
John Trader, "Landscaping with Succulents"
- July 19 & 20 L.A. Fern Show 9 a.m.-4p.m.
- July 20 PV Symphonic "Pops and Picnic" \$5  
5:30 p.m.
- July 23-27 19th Annual Bard in the Garden:  
Taming of the Shrew. [www. Bardinthegarden.org](http://www.Bardinthegarden.org). \$20/\$25 Wed-Sun 8 p.m.
- August 16 & 17 Dahlia Show Sat noon-4 p.m.  
Sun 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- August 17 Begonia Show and Sale 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Please support our host, the South Coast Botanic  
Garden Foundation at any of these educational and  
fun filled events.

### South Bay Orchid Society, Inc.

Meets on the third Friday of each month  
Culture Session at 7:00 p.m.  
General Meeting at 8:00 p.m.  
South Coast Botanic Garden  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

### TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Members on pages 6 and 7 of our Mem-  
bership Directory 2007-2008 are re-  
quested to help setup and store chairs  
and tables for July's meeting. Please be  
there on or before 6:30 PM. After set-up,  
do enjoy our cultural session.



### *Palomar Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction*

Saturday, August 9, 2008

Preview at 11AM, Auction at 12:00 noon

Location: Woman's Club of Carlsbad  
3320 Monroe Street  
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Directions: Go east off 5 on Carlsbad Village Drive. 1/4 mile to Monroe,  
turn south on Monroe to Woman's Club OR go west off El Camino Real  
at Carlsbad Village Drive to Monroe and turn south to Woman's Club.

Monthly meetings: FIRST WEDNESDAY of the month at the Woman's  
Club. Culture class at 6:45PM, regular meeting at 7:30PM.

A big warm THANK YOU to Dr. Streeter  
who graciously presented, at the installation  
banquet, a well received slide show of the  
World Orchid Conference.

The beautiful displays he showed us and be-  
hind the scenes information provided were  
inspirational and entertaining.

Thank you Marla for a great year and for re-  
turning as Mistress of Shows 2008-2009.

*Thank you Tom Renger for taking on the  
responsibility of carrying all those keys.*

The South Bay Orchid Society looks forward  
to an incredibly successful year with great  
volunteer leadership. Don't miss all our  
planned activities and be sure to promote  
membership to friends and acquaintances.

**The Refrigerator Door  
Orchid Calendar  
July 2008**

**SBOS Committee Chairs:**

Librarian:  
Kayo Libiano .....310-897-8085  
*lilkyky@mac.com*

Raffle Tickets:  
Burt Dobratz .....310-375-2693

Refreshments:  
June Brooks.....310-549-4266  
Joann Green .....310-830-1585

Ribbon Judging:  
Polly Kinsinger .....310-374-6471

Property Manager:  
Ron Henry.....310-374-9699

Meeting Set-up:  
David Okihara.....310-324-3211

AOS Liaison:  
Bob Streeter .....310-541-6692

Southland Representative:  
Marilyn Hill .....310-675-0604

Sunshine:  
Kathy West .....310-643-8740

Web Site:  
Don Goss.....310-316-3595  
*Orchids at South Bay Orchid Society dot com*



Unknown Vanda  
Grown by: Sabrina Roque  
Photo by: Sabrina Roque

**New members  
Please go to the membership desk  
at each meeting.**

JULY 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	<u>25</u>	26
27	28	<u>29</u>	30	31		

**YES, IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN!**

**SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY AND  
SUBMIT 2008-2009 DUES**

**THIS IS ALSO A REMINDER TO EVERYONE  
TO EITHER MAIL OR BRING TO THIS  
MONTH'S MEETING THE MEMBERSHIP  
FORM THAT WAS SENT IN LAST MONTH'S  
NEWSLETTER.**

**WE ARE REVAMPING AND UPDATING OUR  
COMPUTER DATABASE, THEREFORE IT IS  
IMPERATIVE THAT EACH MEMBER WILL RE-  
TURN THE FORM. THIS WILL ENSURE  
TIMELY RECEIPT OF OUR NEWSLETTER AND  
INFORMATION REGARDING UPCOMING  
EVENTS.**

**THIS YEAR PROMISES TO BE A YEAR OF  
MUCH GROWTH AND ACTIVITIES. DON'T  
MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN!**

***“The Inflorescence”***

South Bay Orchid Society  
c/o Sabrina Roque  
916 Silver Spur Rd., Ste. 201  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274



C. Chocolate Drop 'Kodama' AM/AOS; Grown and photographed by Tom Renger

**This month's  
meeting is  
the 4th Friday  
July 25th  
at  
South Coast  
Botanic  
Garden**