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Bulletin Editor Jim Gomes jim.gomes@att.net San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

Bulletin

February Meeting Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:30 pm Ribbon Judging 8:00 pm General Meeting

Our regular meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden, Lecture Hall, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia

General Meeting: Fred Clarke "Cattleya mossiae"

Fred Clarke started Sunset Valley Orchids in 1995 as a natural outgrowth of a hobby that began 27 years earlier. Sunset Valley Orchids is a "Boutique" style nursery where we are dedicated to providing excellent customer service and breeding superior orchid hybrids for the orchid enthusiast.

Backed by over 28 years of experience in the horticultural industry as a professional grower and manager, Fred applies these skills to produce well grown and healthy orchid plants.

Sunset Valley Orchids is located in Vista, California about 35 miles north of San Diego and 50 miles south of Los Angeles. The nursery has grown considerably over the last few years and we are now exceeding 45,000 sq. ft. of greenhouses space.

We are plant breeders of award quality orchids. Our efforts are focused in the development of new and interesting lines. We provide unique hybrids and species in several genera including; Cattleya, Catasetinae, Paphiopedilum, Australian Native Dendrobium, and a few others in limited numbers like Sarcochilus, Zygopetalum and Stanhopea.

All our plant offerings are produced in our laboratory and grown from seed here at the nursery. The lab processes over 200 new hybrids annually resulting is 2000 re-plate flasks.

Our plants are selected on strict criteria of robust growth and ease to flower. This is accomplished by selecting the most vigorous growing plants throughout the growing process of; flasking, community trays, and growing on in pots. This grading results in the strongest and best plants for both our customers and for our own future breeding.

Orchids from Sunset Valley Orchid have received hundreds of AOS awards, including 8 that have received the highest honor, the 'First Class Certificate'.

Plant Opportunity Table

The plant table for this month will be provided by **Fred Clarke**. Fred always brings a wide variety of orchids, so don't forget to get your raffle tickets!

JANUARY PLANT JUDGING

Species	Plant Name	Owners Name	Ne
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New Directors 2014

At out last general meeting Dann Dunst and Linda Peterson were elected as our new Directors for 2014. We are pleased that we now have a full slate of officers.

2014 Membership Dues

Pay your news for 2014 now while you think of it. Dues are still only \$20.00. You can mail your check for \$20.00 payable to San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Inc., PO Box 660111, Arcadia, CA 91066 or bring it to the next meeting.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (CONT.)

AOS Rep. Greg Orozco O.D. Reps Brenda Ward Arboretum Rep. Greg Orozco Huntington Rep. Brandon Tam Southland Rep. Dann Dunst Banquet Vacant House Tuan Ngo **How-To Sessions** Greg Orozco Librarian Jeff Brandt Photographers Jim Gomes Brandon Tam Plant Forum Vacant Publicity Irene Sriboonwong Raffle Ticket Sales Gordon Quan **Ribbon Judging** Greg Orozco Roster Jim Gomes Silent Auction Toby Luong Displays Greg Orozco

Membership Welcome Message

We would like welcome new members **Mulyani Ang, Maria Teresa Juaton, and Marilyn C. Wallan.** We had 41members and 4 guests in attendance for the January meeting.

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN

Anyone interested in advertising in the SGVOH Bulletin should contact **Greg Orozco** at <u>g.orozco3400@att.net</u> for prices and information.

Bulletin Deadline: Those wishing to place announcements in the bulletin should get the nformation to the editor, Jim Gomes (626)577-7220 or jim.gomes@att.net, by the Friday following the fourth Thursday of the month.

Botrytis

Take Precautions Now To Prevent This Fungus from Marring Winter Flowers

A fungal disease affecting many different types of herbaceous and woody plants, botrytis strikes during cool, damp weather in areas where air circulation is poor. On orchids, the disease, caused by Botrytis cinerea, causes unsightly brown spotting of blooms. The fungus most often affects Phalaenopsis and Cattleyas, but may be found in a wide range of orchid genera. Older flowers are highly susceptible to infection.



It is a shame to wait all year for flowers and then have them ruined by Botryris. The fungus is prevalent during cool, damp spells of winter.

Life Cycle

The fungus winters primarily on dead and dying plant material, and begins producing and dispersing spores during cool, damp weather in the spring or autumn. Damp conditions, rapidly rising humidity or disturbing infected plants may release spores into the surrounding growing area. Spores can be distributed by wind, rain or any mechanical action. Temperatures in the mid 60's to low 70's F (18–23 C), and wet plant surfaces or ambient humidity of at least 92 percent, are ideal conditions. The fungus can proliferate very quickly, infecting healthy plant tissue in as little as 14 hours.

Symptoms

Botrytis manifests as small, brown necrotic spots on orchid flowers. Those spots may increase in size and number as the infection progresses, and may be surrounded by a pale pink margin. In severe infections, the spots can coalesce, and gray, webbed fungal growth (mycelium) may become visible. If conditions are proper, Botrytis spores can quickly spread from the lesions it makes. See above picture B.

Prevention

The best form of control for botrytis is prevention, which involves sanitation, air circulation and careful watering.

Sanitation Inspect the growing area for conditions favorable to botrytis. As this pathogen thrives and winters over on dead and dying plant material, remove any plant debris, spent or fallen flowers and leaves from the growing area to reduce the possibility of spreading the fungus. Some growers recommend removing and disposing of all affected flowers to help prevent the spread of the fungus, and even burning or burying of affected plant tissue.

Circulation Keep plenty of fresh air moving through the growing area and around plants at all times. A stagnant, damp environment with inadequate air circulation promotes the growth of botrytis. Good air circulation is a necessity to prevent fungal infections year round, but most especially when plants are in bloom. Increasing the ambient temperature and air movement and decreasing the humidity during cool, damp weather will help eliminate any excess moisture on plant tissue, thus minimizing the chances of infection. In most areas, orchids grown outdoors already have the necessary air movement in their environment.

Watering When watering, avoid wetting the plant and its flowers, if possible. Water that remains on petals or leaves after a rain or watering encourages fungal growth. Watering early in the day helps ensure that the plant and its flowers will be dry by nightfall. Never allow blooms or foliage to remain wet overnight.

Companion plants may host a variety of pests and diseases that also affect orchids, including botrytis. Inspect any companion plants in the growing area for signs of the fungus. Some plants susceptible to botrytis include African violets, amaryllis, Amazon lily, azaleas, begonias, cacti, caladium, calla lily, camellias, castor beans, chrysanthemums, cinerarias, coleus, cornflowers, dahlias, dracaenas, dusty millers, ferns, fig, fuchsias, gardenias, gloxinias, heliotrope, passion flower and poinsettias.

Finally, isolate any new plants for a minimum of two weeks before admitting them to your growing area and into your orchid collection. During the isolation period, keep a close eye on the new acquisition for signs of any pest or disease that could be spread to other plants.

Control

Once the botrytis spotting occurs, there is no removing it — only preventing future occurrences. A fungicide such as thiphanate methyl, iprodione, vinclozolin or Physan can be applied as needed to prevent further outbreaks. Since the infection primarily affects flower petals, many growers do not recommend the use of fungicides. As with any chemical, always use it in strict compliance with the manufacturer's instructions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 7 - 9 Newport Harbor Orchid Expo 2014 "Orchid Paradise" Westminster Mall 1025 Westminster Mall Westminster, CA

February 15 - 16 South Bay Orchid Society "Orchid Show & Sale"

Torrance Cultural Arts Center 3330 Civic Center Drive Torrance, CA 90503 www.southbayorchidsociety.com/Show/index.html

> Feb 8th & March 8th & April 12th Mariposa Garden Winter Festival 6664South Street Lakewood, CA 90713 www.mariposagarden.com

March 14 - 16 69th Santa Barbara Intl. Orchid Show "Complements and Contrasts" Earl Warren Showgrounds

Highway 101 and Las Positas Road Santa Barbara, CA

March 21 - 23 San Diego County Orchid Society "A Symphony of Orchids" 2014 Show & Sale Scottish Rite Center 1895 Camino Del Rio South

San Diego, CA

March 28, 29, 30, 2014 Orchids by Art Open House and Sale

Time: 9am to 5pm 16057 Nordhoff St., North Hills, CA 91343 Cell- 818-903-4073; Home-818-893-2987 Refreshments will be served.

The next **Board Meeting** will be held at 7 PM on **Thursday, February 27**, at the LA County Arboretum. Board members unable to attend should notify **Jim Gomes** ((626) 577-7220 or jim.gomes@att.net).



San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists

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