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San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

Bulletin

March Meeting Thursday, March 19, 2015 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: Jim Cootes "Philippine Orchids"

One afternoon in mid 1975 I went to a shopping mall on my way home from work and there was a combined Sydney orchid society show in progress. I spent several hours walking around in stunned silence. Later I walked into a book shop and there was a book, about growing orchids in the Sydney region, which I purchased immediately and read from cover to cover, several times.

The bug had bitten me again and within a few months I had built a greenhouse and a glasshouse. Initially I grew hybrid cattleyas and some *Phalaenopsis*.

A year or two later I went to the home of one of the members of a local orchid society. This old gentleman only grew species orchids, and on seeing the wonderful variation of the plants and flowers, I was hooked on species.

In 1980 I made my third trip to the Philippines, and this time I brought back a selection of species I had purchased from around the country. All were without names. Most of them, when they flowered, were able to be identified, but a small percentage remained unidentified.

This started me collecting information on Philippine orchids, which in time became a database. In 1984 was the publication of *Orchidiana Philippiniana*, and I thought that with this huge book I would be able to identify those plants I had without names. No such luck.

My library grew to considerable size and I was becoming quite good at identifying orchids, particularly those species from southeast Asia.

A chance meeting with Dr. Mark Clements, from the Royal Botanic Gardens in Canberra, started me on the road to naming species by myself.

Dr. Clements also encouraged me to start naming new species, and I named the first *Amesiella monticola*, with David Banks, in 1994.

Since then I have named over 40 species, by myself or with colleagues

The idea was put to me by several people that I should do a book on Philippine species orchids and in 2001 my first book *The Orchids of the Philippines* was published. Ten years later my second book *Philippine Native Orchid Species*, saw the light of day.

In late 2014, my co-author and I approached the publisher of Natural History Publications (Borneo) offering to do the Philippine **Dendrobiinae** volume of this beautiful series. This book was published in January 2015.

FEBRUARY PLANT JUDGING Plant Name Owners Name Species Cultural: Den. pierardii Jim Gomes 1st Den. speciosum 2nd Masd. scabrilingue Jim Gomes Dann Dunst 3rd Onc. splendidum Jim Gomes Hon. Angraecum eburneum Dann Dunst Cattleyas Cultural: 1st Lc. Nigrella 'Jungle Princess' Irene Sriboonwong hybrid 2nd Blc. Mahina Yahiro 'Ulii' YS Farn AM/AOS 3rd Lc. Melecio Huerta 'Senor Jim Gomes Perfecto' Hon. C. Electric Pink Greg Orozco Cattleyas Mini Cultural: Slc. Jewel Box 'Dark Waters' Jim Gomes 1st Blc. Orange Treat Jim Gomes 2nd C. Aurantiaca Jim Gomes 3rd Blc. Young-Min Orange YS Farn 'Golden Satifaction' Hon. Blc. Lily Marie Almas 'MGR' Jim Gomes Cymbidium Cultural: Cymbidium-Novelty Cultural: Cym. Sarah Jean 'Cascade' 4n Jim Gomes x Cym. Iowianum 'Concolor' 1st Cym. Kiwi Midnight Doris Hirata 2nd Cym. (Tethys x Gordon Gibbs) Jim Gomes x Devon Railway 4n) 'Malia' 3rd Cym. Khai Tango 'New Brenda Ward Horizon' Hon. Cym. goeringii Una Yeh Dendrobiums Cultural: Den. Gillieston Gold 'Natalie' Toby Luong 1st Den. Gillieston Gold 'Natalie' Jim Gomes 2nd Den. Star of Riverdene Toby Luong Den. Aussie Parade x Allyn Toby Luong Star Hon. Den. Gracilicaule x Speciosum Toby Luong Oncidiums Cultural: Onc. Twinkle Yellow Jim Gomes 1st Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fantasy' Jim Gomes Paph & Phrags Cultural: Paph. Cavalese Giganteum Dann Dunst 1st Paph. Unknown Alyce Griffith 2nd Paph. Stewies 'Old Faithful' Dann Dunst 3rd Paph. Unknown x Primulinum Dann Dunst Hon. Paph. Unknown Alyce Griffith Std. Phals Mini Phals Vandaceous Cultural: 1st V. Lamellata var. remediosa Dann Dunst 2nd V. Somsri Classic Aaron Estrada 3rd Rhy. Gigantea 'Spotted Dann Dunst Leopard' Other Genera Cultural: 1st Masd. Heathii x Veitchiana Dann Dunst 2nd Masd. Mandarin Gold 'Orange Dann Dunst Crush' Masd. Golden Tiger x Masd. Dann Dunst Pinocchio

2015 **Membership Dues**

Pay your dues for 2015 now while you think of it. Dues are still only \$20.00. Dues are for calendar year 2015 January – December). Please make vour check out to "San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Inc." and mail it to, PO Box 660111, Arcadia, CA 91066 or bring it to the next meeting.

Unpaid Members This will be your last newsletter March meeting you will lose all privileges that are included with membership.

We encourage you to renew your membership

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (CONT.)

AOS Rep. Greg Orozco O.D. Reps Brenda Ward Arboretum Rep. Greg Orozco Southland Rep. Dann Dunst Banquet Vacant House Tuan Ngo Librarian Jeff Brandt **Photographers** Jim Gomes Una Yeh Plant Forum Greg Orozco **Publicity** Irene Sriboonwona Raffle Ticket Sales Gordon Quan Ribbon Judging Linda Peterson Roster Jim Gomes Silent Auction Toby Luong

Plant Opportunity Table

The plant table for this month will be provided by Kalapana Tropicals. Don't forget to get your tickets!

Santa Barbara Show

Santa Barbara Orchid Estates and Cal-Orchids will be having open houses during the show.

Membership Welcome Message

Displays Open

Please Welcome new members Anita Harper and Nilda Hurley.

We had 36 members and 4 quest in attendance at the February meeting.

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN

Anyone interested in advertising in the SGVOH Bulletin should contact Jim Gomes (626)818-1859 or jim.gomes@att.net for prices and information.

Bulletin Deadline: Those wishing to place announcements in the bulletin should get the information to the editor, Jim Gomes (626)818-1859 or jim.gomes@att.net, by the Friday following the fourth Thursday of the month.

The Huntington Greenhouse Tour

All members were invited to tour three of The Huntington's Greenhouses on February 7th. Several of our members took advantage of this delightful opportunity.

We met Brandon Tam at the new entrance to the grounds. The Huntington has been renovating the entrance for several years now and hope to complete the project by 2016.

We first visited the lab where he discussed **hybridizing**. We then toured the three greenhouses. Then, we were all set loose to tour The Huntington grounds.

We all had a delightful day full of knowledge, and fun. Many thanks to The Huntington, and Brandon Tam for this adventurous day.

Hospitality Chair



We are still searching for someone to step up and take charge for the goodies table at our regular monthly meeting. Maybe two people and they could alternate every other month. If you have any ideas please let us know.

Judging Culture Award

Beginning in 2015, SGVOH has decided to give out the Dick and Shirley Lundine Memorial to the member who has the most Culture Awards points for the year.

Each genera can be given a Cultural Award at each meeting.

The criteria is:

- Very well grown plants
- Exceptional number of flowers of this type.
- An overall outstanding plant.

If no plant meets this criteria in a given genera, then no award is given.

Virus Testing

Have you ever wandered if one of your orchids has a Virus? The society is going to purchase a package of testing strips. These strips are very expensive and sold in bulk quantity.

Members interested in testing some of their plants, please contact Jim Gomes. The strips will be sold for \$6.00. A signup sheet will be passed around at the next meeting.

They come in bulk of 25 strips. Unused strips must be refrigerated and they also have a short shelf life.

The CymMV & ORSV ImmunoStrip test is a rapid means of screening orchids for all strains of Cymbidium mosaic virus and Odontoglossum ringspot virus.

A Note From Lana

Spring's cymbidiums are healthy & welcome, the rest of our orchids



(and aphids) are waking up. S.G.V.O.H. thoroughly enjoyed the February 7th Tour of The **Huntington Library Greenhouses** and Lab. Brandon Tam is a joy to learn from. Jim Gomes made our great trip possible. Both are true assets to our orchid world. I was on my first cruise to Ensenada, (the Botanical Gardens there, are a must see.) Thus, I missed Fred Clarke's Program on the 19th, but reports said he always makes a program entertaining, with a lot of growing instruction. Also present were an abundance of orchids. Thank you everyone, who volunteered with Hospitality! See everyone in March. Enjoy the rain water collecting!

> -Lana Tripathi President

2015 SGVOH Auction

The Board of Directors is starting to prepare for this years auction on May 21. We depend upon the funds we raise at the Auction to *help support meeting costs for the year* (speaker's fees, plant table, and room rental. As you go through your orchids, please begin to identify those divisions that would be great donations to our auction. With 'Show Time' this month in Southern California, you know you need to be generating a bit more room in your growing area for those lovely new plants you will buy.

Put May 21st on your calendar and begin inviting your friends and family to join you at this fun event. What a great way to introduce them to the myriad of orchids available at Low, Low prices!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Long Beach Amateur Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction Monday, March 9

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall 6201 E. Willow Street Long Beach, CA 6:00pm - Preview & Registration 6:30pm - Auction Begin

March 13 - 15 The 70th Santa Barbara Intl. Orchid Show "Celebrate With Orchids"

Earl Warren Showgrounds: Highway 101 and Las Positas Road Santa Barbara, CA

March 27 - 29 San Diego County Orchid Society "Around the World With Orchids" 2015 Show & Sale

Scottish Rite Center 1895 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA

March 27 - 29 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, March 26**, 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

Bulletin Editor: Jim Gomes 472 N. Raymond Ave. Pasadena, CA 91103

March 19
Jim Cootes
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Philippines