



San Gabriel Valley *Orchid* Hobbyists

Bulletin

March Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2013
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: Brandon Tam **“Orchids in The Huntington Collection”**

Brandon has been growing orchids since the age of 7 starting with a white flowering Cymbidium his grandmother gave to him. She has been the source of his inspiration to further his studies within the botanical world and pursue a career within that field. She would bring him to their local nursery where she would let him pick a plant each time they went. Over time, not only did his orchid collection grow, but his knowledge in that field did too.

At the age of 14, he began volunteering at The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens where he helped out among the different areas of the institution. From tending to the plants of the Conservatory to database entry of pressed specimens in the Herbarium, there were always plenty of opportunities to quench his thirst for plant knowledge.

When Brandon turned 16, he graduated from high school and began attending college. He is currently studying at the California State University, Pomona where he is working to obtain his Bachelors in Plant Science. A few months after graduating high school, the Director of the Botanical Gardens at The Huntington offered Brandon an internship within the Orchid Department to reorganize and perpetuate the collection.

Currently at the age of 19, Brandon is an Orchid Specialist focusing mostly in Paphiopedilums since a large chunk of the collection at The Huntington consists of that specific genus. Overseeing a 16,000 plant collection is no easy task but Brandon manages to get it done. From hybridizing new plants to the propagation of rare and endangered species, it is a high priority for The Huntington to further the advancements of plants within the Orchid world. At the moment, Brandon is working on the conservation aspect of the collection while collecting and adding more rare orchids to The Huntington's fast growing collection. He stays active in the orchid world by being a member of 7 different orchid societies located all over Southern California while being on the Board of Directors at The San Gabriel Valley Orchid Society. Brandon's participation in the orchid world is very limited at the moment due to his busy schedule working full time, both at work and as a student. After he is done earning his degree, he plans to travel the world to collect orchids on behalf of The Huntington Botanical Gardens.

Plant Opportunity Table

The plant table for this month will be provided by **The Huntington Botanical Gardens**. Don't forget to get your tickets!

P.O. Box 660111
Arcadia, CA 91066
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WWW.SGVOH.ORG

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FEBRUARY PLANT JUDGING

Species	Plant Name	Owners Name
Cultural:		
1 st	Calanthe vestita	Brandon Tam
2 nd	Trichopilia suavis	Brandon Tam
3 rd	Masd. velifera	Dann Dunst
Hon.	L. anceps var. veitchiana	Jim Gomes
Cattleyas		
Cultural:	C. Electric Pink	S&D Lundine
1 st	C. Unknown	Jim Gomes
2 nd	Lc. Purple Cascade	Y.S. Farn
3 rd	Blc. Goldenzelle X Slc. Misty Girl	Jim Gomes
Hon.		
Cattleyas Mini		
Cultural:	C. Aurantiaca	Jim Gomes
1 st	Slc. Tutankamen 'Pop'	Jim Gomes
2 nd	Blc. Orange Nuggett X Lc. Trick or Treat	Jim Gomes
3 rd	Blc. Fuchs Orange Nuggett 'Lea'	S&D Lundine
Hon.	Blc. Zul 'Waiomao Fantasy'	Jim Gomes
Cymbidium		
Cultural:	Cym. Sleeping Dawn	Y.S. Farn
1 st	Cym. Pistachio Mint 'Geyserland' HCC/AOS	Y.S. Farn
2 nd	Cymbidium Heysen Gold 'Geyserland'	Y.S. Farn
3 rd	Cym. Harlequin	Y.S. Farn
Hon.	Cym. Unknown	Tuan Ngo
Cymbidium-Novelty		
Cultural:	Cym. Moon Dust	Jim Gomes
1 st	Cym. Ruby Pendant X Pumilum	Toby Luong
2 nd	Cym. Karen Pepper X devonianum	Una Yeh
3 rd	Cym. Devonianum hybrid	Greg Orozco
Hon.	Cym. Cooksbridge Noel	Una Yeh
Dendrobiums		
Cultural:		
Oncidiums		
Cultural:	Onc. Twinkle (red)	D. Squyres
1 st	Onc. Gower Ramsy	Jim Gomes
2 nd	Onc. Twinkle 'Yellow Fantasy'	Toby Luong
3 rd	Onc. Twinkle (yellow)	D. Squyres
Paph & Phrags		
Cultural:	Paph. Haynaldranum	Brandon Tam
1 st	Paph. Golden Diamond x Bellatulum	Brandon Tam
2 nd	Paph. Kabuki Moon	Brandon Tam
3 rd	Paph. Hellas x Candlelight	S&D Lundine
Hon.	Paph. Dodge City x Stefani Pitta	Dann Dunst
Std. Phals		
Cultural:		
Mini Phals		
Cultural:		
1 st		
Vandaceous		
Cultural:		
1 st		
Other Genera	L. Santa Barbara Sunset 'Showtime'	Lynn Mclwain
Cultural:	Angraecum Sesquipednale	Dann Dunst
1 st	Zygo. Adelaide Meadows	Dann Dunst
2 nd	Angraecum Hybrid	Jose Gonzalez
3 rd	Rhynchostylis Gigantea	S&D Lundine

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Ribbon Judging
Greg Orozco
Roster
Jim Gomes
Silent Auction
Toby Luong
Displays
Greg Orozco

2013 Membership Dues

Pay your news for 2013 now while you think of it. Dues are still only \$20.00. You can mail your check for \$20.00 to SGVOH, PO Box 660111, Arcadia, CA 91066 or bring it to the February meeting.

Membership Message

Welcome

We would like to **WELCOME** new member **Gayle Old-Smith**. We had 37 members and 3 guests in attendance.

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN

Anyone interested in advertising in the SGVOH Bulletin should contact **Greg Orozco** at g.orozco3400@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)577-7220 or jim.gomes@att.net, by the Friday following the fourth Thursday of the month.

Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display. Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy.

The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2-3
South Bay Orchid
Show and Sale

Torrance Cultural Arts Center
3330 Civic Center Dr.
Torrance, CA
Info: www.southbayorchidsociety.com

March 8 - 10
Santa Barbara International Orchid Show
"Orchids in Focus"

Earl Warren Showgrounds
Santa Barbara, CA
Info: www.sborchidshow.com

March 11
Long Beach Amateurs Orchid Society
Annual Auction

6 PM Preview, 6:30 PM Auction begins
St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall
6201 E. Willow St.
Long Beach, CA
Info: info@lbaos.com

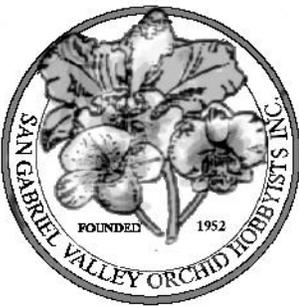
March 22 -24
San Diego Orchid Show

Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
www.sdorchids.com

2013 Membership Dues

Pay your dues for 2013 now while you think of it. You can mail your check for \$20 to SGVOH, PO Box 660111, Arcadia, CA 91066 or bring it to the March meeting. **No Dues means no newsletter or Emails after the March issue!** What a bargain membership is – 12 meetings full of fellowship, beautiful flowers, and opportunities to learn more about orchids!

The next **Board Meeting** will be held at 7 PM on **Thursday, March 28**, 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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March 21

Brandon Tam

Orchids in The

Huntington Collection

