

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara



Meeting: Wednesday, April 11, 2001

MacKenzie Adult Building
at MacKenzie Park

3111 State Street (at Las Positas)

Meeting begins at 7:30 pm

PROGRAM

Karen Muir will speak about
The Japan Grand Prix

Karen Muir has grown orchids for 26 years and has traveled abroad extensively to judge and lecture at orchid shows. Muir, head of the American Orchid Society Pacific South Judging Center, will take us on a guided photo tour of one of the most famous orchid shows in the world. And don't forget to bring your wallet because our speaker will be providing us with a raffle table from Paphanatics, purveyors of fine paphiopedilums.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Santa Barbara Chapter Cymbidium Society Meeting
2001

Wednesday, April 18,

Cymbidium Society of America judging at 7:15 pm, meeting at 7:45 pm, at Carpinteria Public Library.

San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden 10th Garden Festival

May 5-6, 2001

El Chorro Regional Park, Hwy 1 between SLO and Morro Bay. \$5. 805-546-3501,
www.slobg.org/Garden_Festival.htm

Carmel Orchid Society Mayfaire
2001

Crossroads Shopping Village, Hwy 1 at Rio Road, Carmel, CA. (831)646-8724.

May 5-6,

The Huntington Botanical Gardens Orchid Festival

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. (626)405-2140. www.huntington.org

May 12-13, 2001

Summary of the 2001 March Meeting

- **President Sandy Svoboda** welcomed visitors and new members.
- **Santa Barbara International Orchid Show.** President Svoboda reviewed the society's needs for volunteer help for the show. Members were reminded that the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate would hold an open house during the show. A show report appears later in this newsletter.
- **Dues and 2001 OSSB Roster.** The membership was reminded that anyone who had not paid 2001 dues would not receive an April newsletter or the annual roster. Members were asked to update their addresses and telephone numbers for the roster.
- **Laelias at the Zoo.** Four years ago, a group of OSSB members, led by Paul Gripp, mounted a number of *Laelia anceps* and similar outdoor growers on trees at the zoo. President Svoboda announced a trip to the zoo on Tuesday, April 3, to examine the plants and mount any recently donated new plants. The problematic sprinkler system was also on the agenda for inspection. We will hear a report on this excursion at the April meeting.
- **Gallup & Stribling new hours.** Bill Robson, manager of the G&S visitor's center, announced that it now will be open seven days a week

Program

Program Chair Rob Hofberg introduced our March speaker, **Guy Wrinkle**. Wrinkle is the proprietor of the Exotic Plant Nursery in Los Angeles and has traveled extensively throughout the world in exploration of natural habitats. He spoke to the membership about the "Natural History

of Amazonian Peru."

South America is a wonderful, exotic continent for those interested in natural history. Orchids in particular and plant and animal life in general are bountiful. Many of us grow orchid species from the Amazonian region, but few of us have or ever will visit the habitats of the orchids we love. Wrinkle provided us with an armchair tour of the jungles that some of our beloved orchids call home.

Peru is a country of great variety. It boasts the driest desert in the world (Atacoma), some of the lushest jungles, and the headwaters of the Amazon. This mighty River is the largest in the world, containing two thirds of all fresh water on the planet. It pours 500 billion cubic feet of water daily into the ocean – enough to supply New York City for nine years.

The river dominates Amazonian Peru and Ecuador. In that region, land is flat and the river height varies some forty feet between rainy and dry seasons. The great forest trees cling to soil that is poor and shallow, forming huge tripods of roots to buttress them against winds and floods. The forest floor is constantly wet and dark, not a happy environment for orchids, but home to what we recognize as some of our common houseplants. Orchids in this region are all epiphytes, clinging to trees in the forest canopy.

Wrinkle gave us a snapshot view of the forest – slime molds (not plants, not animals, not fungi!), mosses, ferns, cycads, cocoa plants and many palms. There are encyclias and stanhopeas, bromeliads and gingers. And there is copious animal life, from millipedes, termites and tarantulas to poison frogs, snakes, birds and monkeys.

The members saw photos of a boa constrictor curled around an oncidium – a daunting sight to any would-be collector! This is a land of teeming life, with a single Amazonian tree boasting more ant species than the entire island of England. Those of

us who value our creature comforts were pleased to allow Wrinkle the challenges of climbing the trees with crossbow, rope and ratchet. We were happy to travel vicariously to the Amazon with his slides to guide us.

Report on the 2001 Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

The society would like to thank everyone who helped by installing the exhibit, lending plants, working at the sales booth, bringing sales plants, or providing hospitality during the show. This list includes but is not limited to Clara Brown, Don Brown, Alan Chovil, Josh Davis, Art Denk, Jim Haburay, Stephanie Hannan, Mike Hersh, Robert Hofberg, Steve Komp, Carol Krieger, Sunny Lee, Wanda Livernois, Kate Lundy, Frank Methmann, Kim Miller, Santos Ojeda, Marie Sue Parsons, Bill Robson, Carol Rogers, Joe Rubin, P. J. Sanderson, Ethel Seeburg, Dick Swain, Joyce Tolle, Randall Umland, Betty Watt, Robert Weltz, Norm & Joyce Wieder. As always, Jeff Thompson did a wonderful job with design and construction of our display and Carole Cowan was the backbone of the sales effort. Thanks also to Santa Barbara Orchid Estate for splitting a booth with our society.

Congratulations to our society members who won ribbons and trophies. If you won an award or ribbon that I do not mention, please let me know so I can share the news in the next newsletter! (Call Heidi at 563-2894.)

OSSB Member Trophies

Jerry Rehfield – Best Miltonia Trophy for *Milt.* Miriam Weitz

Bill Robson – Best Cyripedium Alliance Division Trophy for *Paph.* Rolfei 'Whitney Jo'

J. P. & Ethel Seeburg – Best Amateur Display 100 sq. ft. or more

Norman Wieder – Best Miscellaneous Genera Trophy for *Masd.* Charisma 'Candy Stripes'

Congratulations also to:

Cal-Orchid – Most Artistic Display

Chaotic Exotics – Best Display less than 100 sq. ft.

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate – Best Botanical Specimen Showing Excellence of Culture for *Den. speciosum*

OSSB Ribbon winners – This list is incomplete, obtained by trying to read ribbons during the show; my apologies to those I've missed and for the partial names of some plants.

Blues: *Dialaelia* Mizoguchi 'Polaris' – Stephanie Hannan

Epi. stamfordianum – Bill Robson

Reds: *Sarco.* Pinky x *hartmannii* – Norm Wieder

Odc. Tiger Hambuhren cross – Norm

Wieder

Paph. Green Gold 'Verdant Pastures'

Schombolaelia Lancer 'Roustabout' – Randall

Umland

Yellows: *Sl.* Orpetii 'Hot Lips' – Norm Wieder

Catt. – Randall Umland

Vanda javierae – Don Brown

Honorable Mention: *Pot.* Sunstate's Ted and Alice 'Garnet's Yellow' – Frank Methmann

Society members also won ribbons with plants in other displays, including Lance Schroeder's blue ribbon *Phrag.* Don Wimber 'Sweet & Sassy' and the Seeburg's blue ribbon *Epi. veroscriptum*

Other Trophies Some of the other trophies awarded at the show included the following.

AOS Show Trophy; Orchid Digest Show Trophy; Design of Distinction Show Trophy; Best Display 100 sq.ft.

Or more Non-Commercial Society – Malibu Orchid Society

Best Orchid in Show and Grand Champion of Show – *Cym.* Rocky Creek 'Gotcha', Casa de las Orquideas

Reserve Champion of Show – *Cym.* (Janet Holland x Khairpour) 'Geyserland', Casa de las Orquideas
Sweepstake Best Display; Best Display 100 sq. ft. or less Non-Commercial Society – Ventura Orchid
Society
Best Display 100 sq. ft. or more – Kollenborn Orchid Co.
Best Display 100 sq. ft. or less Amateur – Weegie Caughlan
Best Table Display – Zuma Canyon Orchids
Best Table Display Amateur – The Dickey Collection
International Phalaenopsis Alliance Show Trophy for Best Phalaenopsis – *Phal.* Cygnus, Zuma Canyon
Orchids
Best Theme of Show – Grant Cole/Tony Velardi
Best Educational/Scientific Display – Sunswept Labs

Announcements

- **New Roster.** This month's newsletter contains the 2001 roster of OSSB members. If you are a paying member of OSSB and did not receive your 2001 roster, please notify Heidi Kirkpatrick.
- **Sales of Member Plants.** Paid members of OSSB are entitled to sell plants at the monthly meetings on the silent auction table. The society receives 20% of the selling price for plants that are sold. Each paid membership (individual or family) may place 3 plants each month on the silent auction table.
- **Newsletter Announcements.** If you have an announcement you would like to appear in the May newsletter, please contact your editor, Heidi Kirkpatrick, by the end of April. Note that announcements are included for the use and interest of OSSB members and that I reserve the right to modify or delete as space permits.
- **Orchid Pollination Continues in May.** For those interested in the continuing series on Orchid Pollination that is appearing in this newsletter, the next installment will appear in May.
- **Upcoming Speakers.** Our Vice President and Program Chair, Rob Hofberg, has been working on this year's meeting speakers and has some tantalizing hints about whom and what we'll hear in the months ahead. In May, we'll hear about miniature and novelty cymbidiums from Butch Weckerle-Thrun. George Vasquez of Zuma Canyon Orchids will tell us in June about current trends in phalaenopsis breeding. July will be a culture meeting with Jerry Rodder speaking on fertilizers, growing media, etc.

See OSSB on the web at www.west.net/~orchidsb

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