

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society



Cover photo: Frank Methmann provided photos of the Coastal Valley Orchid Society Orchid Expo, including this close up of *Bc. Pastoral 'Innocence'* CCM/AOS belonging to Eric Holenda.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Location: *This month only ...*
Franklin Center
1136 E. Montecito

Meeting: 7:30 PM

Jim Sloniker
will speak about
***Santa Barbara International
Orchid Show
Grand Champions***

Our own Jim Sloniker will take us on a review of the winners at the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. Our spring show is one of the premier events in the country, and probably the biggest event for the cymbidium lover; winners here are worth knowing about! Jim is an AOS and CSA judge and also a board member of the SBIOS.

AOS Judging:

The American Orchid Society's Central Coast Judging Center meets concurrently with OSSB in the small room at Louise Lowry Davis. To enter a plant in AOS judging, bring it by 6:30PM for registration. Note that AOS judging is separate from our society's monthly show table. Many thanks to the judges who travel to Santa Barbara to participate in monthly judging. And congratulations to our society members and visitors, whose plants have kept a steady flow of awards coming from our new judging center.

Let's All Support the Society Show

November 22-23, 2008

**Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Fall Show
"Galaxies of Orchids"**

Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Saturday 10AM to 5 PM; Sunday 10 AM to 3 PM.

PLANT SALES: Members will be able to sell plants at the society sales booth; the society gets 75% of the sales price. Make a numbered list of all your sales plants with their sale prices. PJ will provide orange tags on which you put the plant number, the plant price, and your initials. When the plant sells, this tag and the list provide records for the society.

SET-UP: Friday 1 PM to 5 PM. If you want your plant in the society display, bring it to the museum by 2 PM or it may not make it into the display.

RIBBON JUDGING: We still need ribbon judges. No experience necessary. Judging lists will be provided. Call 563-2894 for more information or to volunteer.

SALES VOLUNTEERS: Make our treasurer PJ a happy woman and volunteer to help at the society sales booth. Sign ups at the November meeting.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS: Greet visitors, sign up new members, hand out brochures. The society has culture sheets, so you don't need to be an expert grower to answer questions.

TEAR-DOWN: This always goes quickly at the end of the show.

OSSB Officers for 2008:
President - Randall Umland
Treasurer - PJ Sanderson

Vice President - Carole Thompson
Secretary - Heidi Kirkpatrick

Visit the OSSB Web Site!

www.orchidsb.net

Summary of the October 2008 Meeting

❁ President Randall Umland reminded everyone of the upcoming OSSB show and passed around volunteer sign-up sheets. Volunteers are needed for ribbon judging, set-up, tear-down, exhibit installation, hospitality and the society sales booth. Members can also help with publicity by passing out the flyers that will be available at the meeting.

Program

Vice President Carole Thompson introduced our October speaker, Tony Velardi, past CSA judge, past president of San Gabriel Valley Cymbidium Branch, and noted cymbidium breeder. Tony has always hybridized for fun, sending his pods to Gallup and Stribling for flasking. After Tony has seen plants bloom, they are sold by Ron Hill of Mariposa Gardens, who sells cymbidiums as an off-season crop from his regular perennials.

Tony grows in a 40 foot by 50 foot lath house with an East-West orientation. If he likes a clone for breeding, he keeps two plants of it: one with seed pods and one recovering from seed pods. To pass his selection criteria, however, any plant first must be a good grower. If it doesn't grow well, Tony throws it out.

Among the species Tony uses in hybridizing is *Cym. canaliculatum*. He got eleven clones from Grant Cole, which included plants bearing green flowers with spots and plants bearing dark flowers with a picotee. Tony grows this species in full sun (no shade cloth!). The leaves are short and there are lots of spikes. He also waters the species "all the time," even in winter.

Cym. devonianum is another prominent part of Tony's breeding program. This species produces pendent spikes. To prevent them from hitting the side of the pot, Tony will knock a spiking plant out of the pot and add some mix beneath to bring the plant up above the edge of the pot. When the plant has finished blooming, he removes the extra mix again. He noted that among his 25 clones of the species, 'India' has a great dark lip, while 'Coburg' has a wide dorsal.

Cym. suave can have a somewhat muddy color. Tony likes the clone 'Sweetie' for its clean green without the reddish brown overlay. It also has attractive red inside the lip with a yellow-green tip.

Tony's first cross in 1981 was *Cym. Mad Hatter*,

of which he liked the clone 'Eclair'. This was a cross of *Cym. Mad Irishman* with *Cym. devonianum*. Crossing this with the Keith Andrew creation *Cym. Kalimpong* (Wild Silk × *devonianum*) resulted in *Cym. Geno's Gem*, a clone of which won Grand Champion Cymbidium at the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. Other interesting clones included 'Firefly', with nice color, and 'Catcher', a dwarf plant with only one foot leaves.

Among Tony's many other interesting crosses are the following:

- *Cym. Drew's Delight* (Fifi × Corakiwi)—can have over 40 flowers on a spike.
- *Cym. (Fifi × Olive Street)*—Tony used the 4n 'Harry' clone of Fifi to make this cross. Some clones had one or two red spots on the lip while others were concolor.
- *Cym. (Edith's Quest × devonianum)*—some seedlings had the dominant *devonianum* lip, while others were interestingly diffused.
- *Cym. (Kalimpong × Olive Street)*—olive greens with a very pretty lip of red spots on white.
- *Cym. (Kalimpong × suave)*—attractive reds down the throat. Note that Kalimpong while produce four spikes per bulb, but hates dissolved salts in the water.
- *Cym. Small Planet* (Sarah Jean × *suave*)—using the 'Baby Cakes' clone of Sarah Jean to make this cross, Tony got some pretty spots and red in the throat.
- *Cym. First Dance* (Last Tango × Tethys)—Tony used the 'Boo-boo' (splotchy instead of spotty) and 'Black Magic' clones, respectively. The results were attractive, such as the clone 'Passion', a pink with a red spot on the lip. Other seedlings were pink with spots all over or green with red spots.
- *Cym. Penny's Worth* (Snow Court × Tethys)—flowers were clear pink or white with smooth, round shapes and no spots.
- *Cym. (Penny's Worth × devonianum)*—Tony plans to register this as Giggly Gabi, after one of his grand daughters. Seedlings are blooming with "art" colors, such as sunset tones with a red lip or pink with spots and blotches. Other seedlings bloomed white with light "devonianum" spotting or green with red spots on the lip.

- *Cym.* (Wallacia 'Burnt Gold' 4n x Fifi 'Harry')—the diploid (2n) Fifi 'Harry' is recessive for color, but with long spikes. Tony is aiming for the great Wallacia 'Burnt Gold' color in a couple generations, but on the long Fifi spike. Tony is also experimenting with Wallacia crossed with other, better growers, such as *Cym. pumilum* or *Cym. Asian Tower*.
- *Cym.* Dual Hemispheres (provisional) (American Connection x Touchstone)—the American Connection parent is a cross of Sir Glenn and Sarah Jean. Tony used Touchstone 'Janice', which makes interesting lips on clear, clean green flowers on short spikes.
- *Cym.* [(Sydney Harbor x Sarah Jean) x *devonianum*]—Tony introduced some Australian breeding with the Sydney Harbor grandparent (Baloo x Adelong), a pretty yellow. The resultant seedlings are showing pale peach with fine spots on the petals and red spots on the lips.
- *Cym.* Brown Sugar (Pure Bisque x *devonianum*)—very floriferous seedlings.
- *Cym.* (Karen Pepper x *devonianum*)—the Karen Pepper here was a selfing of the 'Cafe au Lait' clone with its white lip with red spot. Crossing the selfing with *Cym. devonianum* resulted in long spikes of brown flowers with nice white lips with a red spot.
- *Cym.* Gold Strike (Coral Gold x Sleeping Dream) — pure yellows.
- *Cym.* (Mad Hatter x Fifi 'Harry')—the Mad Hatter parent can have 40 flowers per spike, and Fifi has a long spike, so Tony expects very long spikes on this cross.
- *Cym.* (Gilgamesh x Fire Wheel)—pink standard.

Tony noted that second generation *Cym. devonianum* hybrids can be rather sterile. Also, plants can develop a resistance to breeding after the flower opens.

For growers, alba forms tend to be slower growers or weaker growers. Tony also thinks it is best to buy plants grown in similar conditions to one's own. The plants make the transition better.

AOS Judging Results

September-OSSB Meeting

Laelia pumila 'SanBar Black River' 81 pt AM (SBOE) One flower

on one inflorescence; petals vibrant purplish blue, tipped cream; sepals vibrant purplish blue tipped green; lip cream with violet midlobe, side lobes blushed purplish blue, yellow centrally; substance firm; texture matte.

Paph. Hsinying Agogo 'Joann Steele' (Hsinying Con Con x *armeniicum*) 80 pt AM (Don Brown) One flower on one inflorescence; flower pure chrome yellow with small mahogany speckles centrally on petals and inside pouch, speckles become finer and more sparse distally; staminode has reddish veins. Judges felt this flower carried the best of the parent's good qualities.

Phrag. Elizabeth March 'Lizzy' (*sedanii* x *besseae*) 78 pt HCC (Hatfield Orchids) One flat flower and two buds on one inflorescence; base color cream with rose-pink overlay; minor flush on dorsal sepal; major flush on petals, darker distally and lighter centrally; pouch dark rose-pink; substance good; texture matte.

Phalaenopsis violacea 'Blue Boy Weltz' 81 pt AM (S. Robert Weltz, Jr.) One flat flower and two buds on one inflorescence; base color cream with rose-pink overlay; minor flush on dorsal sepal; major flush on petals, darker distally and lighter centrally; pouch dark rose-pink; substance good; texture matte.

October-OSSB Meeting

Paph. (*delenatii* x Pedro's Moon) 78 pt HCC (Don Brown) One flower on one 17 cm inflorescence; flower cream with slight rose flush on dorsal sepal, heavier on petals; staminode light yellow; substance firm; texture matte.

Paph. Mac Worth 'Kaitlyn' (*charlesworthii* x Macabre) 76 pt HCC (Jim Sloniker) Two flowers on two inflorescences; dorsal sepal white, clearly veined purple; synsepal white, faintly blushed green; petals tan, evenly spotted burgundy; pouch tan, overlaid with purple veins, spotted and striped purple; staminode pale yellow with brighter yellow-green central dot; substance moderately firm; texture glossy.

Phalaenopsis violacea f. *alba* 'Jack' 76 pt HCC (Jim Sloniker) One very attractive flower on one inflorescence; flower white with pale green tip on petals; sepals pale green on distal two-third; lip white with yellow sidelobes; column pure white; no trace of anthocyanin on flower, stem or foliage; substance firm; texture matte.

October-Coastal Valley O.S. Orchid Expo

Dendrobium schneiderae 'Sycamore Creek' CBR (Bill Robson) Six flowers and eleven buds on two arching inflorescences; flowers pale green with maroon on distal ends of lip slidelobes; substance light; texture matte.

Guaraphidendrum Volcano Trick 'Keauhou' (Lc. Trick or Treat x *Epi. stamfordianum*) 78 pt HCC (Gene Baum) Sixty-eight flowers on two upright branching inflorescences; sepal and petals orange; lip yellow basally with red spots and white throat; substance firm; texture crystalline.

Brassocattleya Pastoral 'Innocence' (C. Mademoiselle Louise Pauwel x Bc. Deese) 82 pt CCM (Eric Holanda) Twenty-eight flowers and two buds on ten inflorescences; beautifully grown 56 cm wide plant in a 30 cm tub; flowers well presented evenly around plant; flowers white with lemon yellow throat; lavender splash on distal end of mid-lobe of lip; substance firm; texture crystalline.

The August results are not reported here for space considerations but will be reported in upcoming newsletters.

OSSB Fall Show

This year's fall show is the weekend before Thanksgiving and early reports suggest the *L. anceps* will be great. To make the show a success, OSSB needs support from its members:

1) **VOLUNTEER**—a great way to meet people, a great way to be involved. **Sign up at the November meeting.**

2) **ATTEND THE SHOW**—The show is free with admission to the Museum; check out the new bird hall when you visit the show. Tell your friends about our show!

Refreshments

Thanks to Don and Carrie Brown for delightful snacks and new member Mary Sageghian and Carol Rogers for drinks in October. If you have not brought refreshments for a while, consider signing up for drinks or food in 2009.

	<i>Food</i>	<i>Drinks</i>
<i>November</i>	Frank Methmann	open

October Show Table

The October Show Table was populated by plants from Don Brown, Ed and Shirlie Carter, Bill Robson, Mary Sadeghian and Jeff Thompson. Members also appreciated seeing the AOS award winners. Thanks to Jim Sloniker and Jim Kotsybar for stepping in to discuss the show table in Bryce Augustine's and Paul Gripp's absences.

First place in show table voting was a tie between new member Mary Sadeghian's floriferous miltonia hybrid

and Don Brown's *Vanda* Sansai Blue. A vanda also took second place; your editor cannot report the name because the enthusiastic growth of Ed and Shirlie Carter's plant had swallowed the label. The Carters also won third place with their lovely *Paph.* (Sierra Belle x *bellatulum*).

Bring your blooming plant in to the show table to share at the meeting; we all learn from seeing real plants in bloom!