

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Special Meeting Date:

Friday,
July 8, 2011

Location: Louise Lowry Davis
Recreation Center
1232 De La Vina (at Victoria)

Meeting: 7:30 PM

Steve Manning
will speak about
***James Bateman and the Orchids of
Mexico and Guatemala***

Our special guest speaker this year is holder of the British National Pleurothallidinae Collection, Steve Manning, who is at the SBOE International Orchid Fair to promote his new book, *Discovering New World Orchids*. Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear a noted British authority on pleurothallids! Thanks to the Santa Barbara Orchid Estate for bringing Steve Manning as a guest author to the Orchid Fair and enabling us to enjoy him as a special speaker.

AOS Judging:

AOS Judging will be held as usual on the third Wednesday, but there will be no OSSB meeting at that time. Public AOS Judging will also be held at the Fair at 1 pm on Friday.



Photo: The AOS judges gave an Award of Merit to Jim Sloniker's *Paphiopedilum Sandy's Wild Turkey 'J&R's 21st'*. More photos on page 3. Descriptions on page 4. Photo by Larry Vierheilig.

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.

Refreshments:

Have pity on our refreshment chair and sign up for refreshments! No one has signed up for the June meeting refreshments! Call or email Frank Methmann if you can bring refreshments. fmorchids@hotmail.com or 805-566-0839

OSSB Officers and Board for 2011:

President - Frank Methmann	Vice President - Wayne Ferrell
Treasurer - PJ Sanderson	Secretary - Heidi Kirkpatrick
Membership & mailing - Frank Methmann	Hospitality - Frank Methmann
Raffle - Jeff Thompson	Silent Auction - Art Denk
Show Table Results - Heidi Kirkpatrick	AOS Rep - Sandy Svoboda
Directors-at-large - Don Brown & Randall Umland	
Web Master - Meryl Wieder	
Visit the OSSB Web Site!	www.orchidsb.net

❁ **PLEASE READ! Opinion Poll from the Members**

OSSB has the opportunity to receive a \$50 gift certificate toward free plants from Carter & Holmes Nursery (lots of cattleyas, some paphs, a few assorted other things). The catch: In exchange, Carter & Holmes wants our membership roster so they can send catalogs to our members. Your editor's note: I loathe being on mailing lists and have put myself on blocked mail lists to reduce the junk mail, but I do receive the C&H catalog. It's pretty and all color with lots of pictures. I think they are out of their minds with the cost of good color printing, but I look through the catalog all the same.

YES, give CARTER & HOLMES our roster for a gift certificate.

NO, DO NOT share the OSSB roster with anyone. If majority opinion is to send the roster, please remove my name

Please email or telephone your response to
President Frank Methmann
fmorchids@hotmail.com
805-566-0839

If you would like to be removed from any roster sent to C&H, call or email Heidi Kirkpatrick
orchidtrain@cox.net
805-563-2894

❁ **Report on the June Meeting**

Weegie Caughlan spoke to the membership in June. In addition to being president of Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers in the Bay Area, Weegie is an AOS judge and a cymbidium grower extraordinaire. Weegie has won five Grand Champion Cymbidium awards and five Reserve Champion Cymbidium awards at the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show.

Weegie's talk was titled "A Walk through the Shows of 2011" and was accompanied by music and a photo list of 103. If you did not get a copy and would like one,

your editor can scan her annotated copy and email it.

As a judge and a cymbidium grower, Weegie noted that a lot of what attracts anyone to a flower is personal taste. Weegie looks for rounded flowers that cupped, not saucered, and appreciates a well-grown specimen plant. This year, she was pleased to see a number of specimen cymbidiums, which she called a "huge step in the right direction." She did bemoan an overall lack of new seedlings and clones, and highlighted the new cymbidiums she did see. Some plants are do well for their growers are appear at shows year after year.

At a lot of shows, displays are simply plants set neatly on a tabletop, also known as "bench displays." When installing any display, whether a tabletop display or one of the more elaborate floor displays as at the Santa Barbara show, it is best to group colors together for a better overall exhibit.

This year, Weegie was disappointed in the earliest shows of the season until she started seeing some of the species being shown. Most modern standard hybrids have come from about ten species cymbidiums. Five or six of these are often seen at shows because they are "happy growers." These are *Cym. tracyanum*, *Cym. erythraeum*, *Cym. parishii*, *Cym. insigne*, *Cym. lowianum*, and *Cym. grandiflorum*. Weegie's own plant of *Cym. grandiflorum*, 'Wejok', she describes as easy to bloom, while *Cym. lowianum* 'Pitts' always has a dramatic presentation.

Among the many plants she noted were the following:

Cym. Valley Splash 'Awesome' S/CSA (Vivacious × Hazel Tyers) ~ great display plant.

Cym. Everett Stockstill (Solana Beach × Robin) ~ this grex had a disappointing bloom this year.

Cym. Strathdon 'Cooksbridge Fantasy' AM/AOS B/CSA (Dorothy Rowe × Hazel Tyers) ~ one of Weegie's favorites.

Cym. Elle Ronis (Khan Flame × Kabuki Moon) ~ Weegie showed three clones and predicted there will be more appearing at shows in the future.

Cym. John Wooden 'Royale' (Red Beauty × Solana Beach) ~ this cultivar will be shown as a specimen plant for years to come.

Cym. Icho Tower 'Trinity' AM/AOS, S/CSA (Grands Vaux × Highland Advent) ~ still the best yellow out there.

Weegie noted that her favorite plants change with new breeding and what is blooming well, but right now, her top five are:

- 5) *Cym.* Brenda 'Geyserland' HCC/AOS
- 4) *Cym.* Valley Splash 'Awesome' S/CSA
- 3) *Cym.* Mighty Burro 'Cinnabar'
- 2) *Cym.* Tower of Fire 'Loyola' HCC/AOS
- 1) *Cym.* Rayon de Soleil 'Cinnabar' AM/AOS, B/CSA

Weegie grows under oak trees, with some plants under 30% shade cloth. From mid October to mid April, her upper growing area is under plastic on the top and sides, with the ends open. She used to grow in bark and perlite, but with the decline of bark, she has shifted to two parts coconut chips, one part coir and one part perlite, plus some sand. If the mix is good, the plant will outgrow the pot in three years.

For best results, Weegie quoted the old recommendation of fertilizing weekly, weakly. Cymbidiums are heavy feeders, so the lax grower should invest in a slow release fertilizer like Nutricote or Dynamite and replace every six months. Weegie uses a granule topdressing and also fertilizes weakly weekly. Currently, she is trying Bayer rose foods. The 1 in 3 has fungicide, insecticide and food. She also uses epsom salts.

Weegie started as a serious grower around 1980 and now has a couple thousand plants, the majority of which are in 2 gallon pots. She makes her own hybrids, grows up to 5-100 of a cross, and blooms at most 30. For ease of transport, she stakes her standard cymbidiums upright using Niko rolls hooked at the end of a long stake.

Top: *Paphiopedilum* Sandy's Wild Turkey 'J&R's 21st' AM/AOS.

Bottom: *Paphiopedilum* Sandy's Wild Turkey 'Jack' HCC/AOS.

Details on page 4. Photos by Larry Vierheilig.

🌸 Calendar of Events

August 6, 2011 ~ Palomar Orchid Society Annual Auction, Woman's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad, preview at 11 AM, auction at 12 NOON

September 24 & 25, 2011 ~ Fascination of Orchids Show & Sale, South Coast Plaza, 1631 W Sunflower, Santa Ana, 10 AM to 5 PM

November 13-20, 2011 ~ 20th World Orchid Conference, Singapore.



Upcoming Meetings

August ~ Christopher Croom

Use your nose in August! Christopher Croom will speak about orchid fragrances.

September ~ Arthur Pinkers

AOS Judge Arthur Pinkers will introduce us to the joys of Oncidinae.

NEW EDITOR NEEDED!

I have threatened to retire before, but this time I really need to find a replacement. I have taken on added responsibilities in other aspects of my life and can't do the newsletter justice anymore. If you ever want to see a timely newsletter again, volunteer to write it! I will help my successor get started.

I love OSSB, but I have been writing the newsletter since 1999 and am BURNED OUT! Someone rescue me (and rescue our president, Frank)! Contact Frank or me for more info.

Show Table Results

First place in June went to Larry Vierheilig's stunningly colored *Zygonissia* Co=ynosure 'Blue Bird'. Larry was also one of three to boast a second place plant (*L. tenebrosa*). The others were Don Brown with *Mystacidium braboniae* and Frank Methmann with *Trichopilia (tortilis × tixialbae)*. Bryce Augustine earned third place with *Paph. (malipoense × vietnamense)*. Thanks also to Daniel Geiger, who brought in some delightful miniatures, and Bill Robson, with his usual array of superbly grown botanicals.

AOS Results

Honors went to Jim Sloniker for two cultivars from the same grex, *Paphiopedilum* Sandy's Wild Turkey (*victoria-regina × lowii*). 'J&R's 21st' received an Award of Merit of 82 points from the American Orchid Society Judges. (Does that mean Jim and Rebecca's 21st anniversary? Congrats!) 'Jack' earned a 77 point Highly Commended Certificate. Larry Vierheilig provided the photos.