

Coastal Valley Orchid Society

Lompoc, California

www.coastalvalleyorchidsociety.com



Epipactis gigantea
Society Adopted Orchid
Photo courtesy of Phil Rietz

Annual Auction:
August 19th, 2008
The Lompoc Library
Grossman Gallery
Auction begins at 7 p.m.

AMERICAN
ORCHID
SOCIETY

An AOS Affiliate Society
Since 2002

2008 - 2009

Officers

President: Eileen Whitty
Vice President: Jim Kotsybar
Secretary: Gene Baum
Treasurers: Van & Pam
Bivans
Past President: Phil Rietz

Board of Directors

(2007 - 2009)

Heather Quinn
Rich Boden
David Quinn
Lori Quinn

(2008 - 2010)

Lena Meurling
Jeannie Beattie
Mike Horochivsky
Penny Whitaker

Committees

Membership: Phil Rietz
Publicity: Charlie & Marilyn
Radaz
Hospitality: Judy Lee
Show Displays: Jeannie
Beattie & Eileen Whitty
Librarian: Bob Page
Historian: Mike Horochivsky
Newsletter: Phil Rietz
Web Master: Phil Rietz

Scheduled Program

Annual Coastal Valley Orchid Society Plant Auction

Our August meeting will be the Annual Plant Auction. As of this writing the society officers and board of directors are working on gathering donations from several surrounding orchid nurseries. This is the society's big money maker for the year and this event needs the support of society members. Please consider bringing a guest for the evening. There will not be a speaker for this evenings meeting but there will be a short business meeting prior to the auction. This year we will have a sales table that will be open to the public from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and the auction will follow beginning at 7 p.m. Once again our Auctioneer will be Jim Kotsybar who always makes it entertaining for those in attendance and he knows the orchid language. Hope to see you come out and support your Society at the plant auction!

Sad News

The Coastal Valley Orchid Society would like to pass on it's condolences to AOS President, Carlos Fighetti who's wife, Maria Teresa 'Tere' Fighetti, passed away suddenly of a tragic heart attack. Those interested can make donations to the Heritage Collection of the American Orchid Society in his wife's name. Tere was quite impressed with the idea of preserving the special orchid species and hybrids that are the foundation of our hobby and commercial business

An outpouring of donations in her name would be a lasting way to remember this gracious person who, through her patience and understanding gave us her husband and friend to lead the revitalization of the AOS. Please consider this approach as a way of giving Carlos your expression of sympathy for his loss.

Notes of Interest from the July Meeting

Eileen called the meeting to order and asked that each officer present a report. Eileen asked that Gene Baum read the minutes from the last meeting. Gene discussed the new AOS Judging Center in Santa Barbara and said that it is still being very well received and supported. He also discussed the special Cymbidium Society of America (CSA) event that was held on the evening of Friday, July 11th in Santa Barbara in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Orchid Estates Summer Fair. The Santa Barbara Branch of CSA hosted Dr. David DuPuy, lead author of newly revised book *The Genus Cymbidium*. It was Dr. DuPuy's first US lecture. The meeting was very well supported and there were several positive comments made about the evening's event. Gene then discussed the new Orchid Digest award that recognizes a member of a society for their outstanding contributions to their society. Jim Kotsybar was not present to report anything new to those present. Van and Pam Bivans were also not present (on vacation) and Eileen provided the Treasurer's report.

Eileen then asked for a Committee's report and Jeannie Beattie discussed the Flower Festival Flower Show sponsored by the Alpha Club and thanked everyone who helped set up and tear down the society display.

Phil Rietz then discussed the on-going Membership Drive and asked that if anyone had any new ideas that they can contact him with their idea on getting new members. Phil then discussed the upcoming Annual Society Barbecue. Tickets were made available at this meeting and will also be available at the July meeting. Members can contact Van or Phil for tickets/information and members were asked to provide a side dish (last name begins with A – O) or desserts (last name begins with P – Z). The meal will consist of Tri-Tip, Chicken, beans, salad, bread, soda and water. Cost for members will be \$7 and \$9 for non-members. This year's event will be held at the home of Van and Pam Bivans with Phil and John Martinez once again manning the grill. The last day to purchase tickets will be July 23rd.

Charlie Radaz provided the publicity report and said that he is not getting much support from the local newspaper. Discussion followed and he and Heather Quinn along with Gene Baum will work on an article for the upcoming Auction.

Mike Horochivsky was back from vacation but did not have anything to pass on as the society historian.

The society Librarian, Bob Page, was also out of town so there was nothing to pass on from that position.

The floor was then opened for new business and Gene introduced Ron MacHatton from the American Orchid Society (AOS). Ron is the director for Education, nomenclature, regional outreach, and research for AOS. Ron was very pleased to be in attendance and discussed some of the happenings within AOS.

With no further business the meeting Eileen introduced a couple of familiar faces to those present, Brian and Phena Gerhard from Down Under Native Orchids. Brian provided a very informative talk on *Dendrobium speciosum*. His talk was well supported with some fantastic pictures of *Dendrobium speciosum*. He also provided a very nice plant table for the evening.

A Reminder for Members

It is asked that members and guests arrive on-time for monthly meetings so we do not keep our guest speakers waiting and so that the meeting can start on-time! Meetings start at 7 p.m.

CVOS Mission Statement

"The purposes of the **Coastal Valley Orchid Society** are to promote and stimulate interest in orchids;
to encourage the culture and conservation of all orchids;
and to provide for the exchange and dissemination of information relating to the culture of orchids among members of the Society."



*Ascda. Brighton's Best
Courtesy of Phil Rietz*

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The 2008 Membership Drive is now underway! If a member brings a guest to a meeting both the member and the guest will receive a raffle ticket and first chance to win an orchid. (Applies to only bringing a guest to a meeting one time and not the same guest to multiple meetings)

If a member brings a guest to a meeting and the guest signs up as a new member then the member who brought the guest and the new member will each receive a raffle ticket and the first chance to win an orchid as well as three tickets to the general raffle.

For any questions or more details please contact Phil for more information!



Do you ever wonder where all those great treats and refreshments come from at each meeting?

Judy Lee and her sometimes stand-in, Gloria York, provide a fabulous spread each month and CVOS members enjoy the great hospitality table. You can help and are encouraged to bring refreshments and/or treats. For more information, contact Judy Lee or just bring something to the next meeting!

SOCIETY NAMETAGS

If you are a new member or a member who would like a Society nametag, please contact Van or Pam Bivans. *The price has changed from our vendor and the CVOS nametags are available in pin or magnetic clip for \$9.00.* If you order at the meeting, they are normally available at the next meeting. Payments are also made to Van or Pam upon receipt of the pin.

AOS Judging Central Coast Judging Center In Santa Barbara

This month's judging event will be held **August 20th** at the Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De La Vina Street, in Santa Barbara in conjunction with the Orchid Society of Santa Barbara's monthly meeting. Plant check-in begins at 6:30 pm with the judging beginning at 7 pm. If you have a plant that you would like to have judged by accredited AOS judges then take it on down to Santa Barbara and support our new judging center. This event is held the third Wednesday of each month.

Orchid Tips – The Fall Season

Author Unknown

Believe it or not, the fall season will be here before you know it. The fall season for orchids is an important one. It is one where a great number of the orchid plants need care as well as the change in the basic requirements.

From the summer season to the fall there is less of a requirement for water as the temperature decreases. You will need to monitor this closely. If you see wrinkling on the leaves this means that you need more H₂O.

As a general rule this time of the year requires the use of a balanced orchid fertilizer like one with 20-20-20 balance. This means that there is 20% nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium in the mixture. As you use fertilizer on the orchid plants use it as half strength and generally once a week.

It is important only add fertilizer after you have watered the plant. Once again be sure that you allow the water and fertilizer to run out of the pot. Leaving water and fertilizer in the pot allows root rot to destroy the orchid - very quickly.

The temperature is also getting cooler in most parts of the country during the fall. So if you have plants outdoors you may start to think about getting them indoors. Most orchids can do well in with temps in the 50's and few do ok into the forties. I like to suggest that your plants come inside when the night temps are in the mid fifties.

Now let's get to some specifics for some of the different genera. For **Cattleya's** there growth rate will tend to slow as the fall progresses. The sheaths on the Catts will show some changes indicative of blooming over the next six months. Don't forget the fertilizer and watering. These plants do well in bright lighting. If you are bringing your orchid indoors from the outside, check carefully for any pests that may be clinging to the plant.

Cymbidiums may start blooming in the fall and they need to be in shaded cool areas. Cymbidiums have a genetically based warmth tolerance but for the best blooms they need an area that is shaded and somewhat cooler. The spikes with the flowers, called inflorescence, need to be staked to prevent the heavy flowers from weighting down the spike.

Phalaenopsis are just starting to go through the next stage to ready for blooms in the late winter and spring. They need the cool difference in daytime and nighttime temps. It is recommended that there be about a 10 - 15 degree Fahrenheit difference.

Phalaenopsis also need to be watered and fertilized less often during these first few months of fall. They are resting. It would helpful to give them a fertilizer with a higher phosphorous percentage to help boost the blossom potential. This fertilizer is also called "blossom booster".

Dendrobiums also need a "blossom booster" as well at this time of the year. Remember their flowers are usually plentiful and grow toward the top of the spike making them top heavy. Use a stake to help hold them erect and be sure that the pot is heavy enough to keep itself upright.

The green leaved **Paphs** are also getting ready to have flowers. The shafts are displaying the spikes. Be careful with these orchids as a sudden heat spell will prove disastrous to the new blooms. Keep them in a cooler area and with good air circulation.

Paphs don't like to get dry so be careful with watering. If you were watering twice a week try cutting down to once a week. But while doing this test your medium with the dry tip of a pencil. Stick it down about an inch or two into the pot, if the tip comes out wet your fine.

Local Society Meeting Information

Santa Maria Orchid Society, Inc. Monthly Meeting. Held each month on the first Wednesday, beginning at 7 pm, Veterans' Memorial Center, 313 W. Tunnell Street. Contact Chuck Scheitaur at 937-6201 for more information.

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Monthly Meeting. Held each month on the third Wednesday at the Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center, 1232 De La Vina (at De La Vina and Victoria) and beginning at 7:30 pm.
www.west.net/~orchidsb/

Five Cities Orchid Society Monthly Meeting. Held each month on the second Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Arroyo Grande Woman's Community Center, 211 Vernon St., Arroyo Grande. www.fcos.org/meetings.html

Santa Barbara Cymbidium Society Monthly Meeting. Held each month on the second Wednesday at the Louise Lowry Davis Recreation Center, 1232 De La Vina (at De La Vina and Victoria) and beginning at 7:30 pm.
www.cymbidium.org/

Upcoming Events

August 9, 2008

Palomar Orchid Society Orchid Auction, Carlsbad Woman's Club, Carlsbad, CA, Preview of orchids at 11:00 a.m. Bidding begins at 12:00 p.m. All types of orchids! Contact: Phyllis Prestia orchldy2@mac.com or 760-732-0055

August 19, 2008

CVOS Annual Plant Auction, This is the society's annual moneymaker. See this month's meeting notes for more information. Please attend and support the society!

September 13 – 14, 2008

Sacramento Orchid Forum Show, Shepard Garden and Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA. Contact: Jeff Tyler, 5520 Fruitridge Rd., Sacramento, CA 95820; (916) 455-4292.

October 3 – 5, 2008

San Diego International Orchid Fair, Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Garden Dr., Encinitas, CA. Contact: Jamie Werner, (760) 943-2333, jamie@szpr.com.

October 16 – 19, 2008

Southland Orchid Show, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 11511 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA. Contact: Robert Lauri, 4290 Van Dyke Pl., San Diego, CA 92116; (619) 742-0741; bklauri@yahoo.com.

October 25, 2008

Third Annual CVOS Orchid Expo & Sale, The Society leadership is still working out the details. More info coming out soon on this event.

November 1 – 2, 2008

Santa Barbara Orchid Estates Fall Open House, An annual event for the Central Coast. More info and times coming soon when available. <http://www.sborchid.com/events.php>

November 22 - 23, 2008

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Fall Show, Held at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History by the OSSB. This year's theme is "Galaxies of Orchids".

The Coastal Valley Orchid Society Presents the 2008 Orchid Expo and Sale

This year's event will be held at the Lompoc Library in the Grossman Gallery on Saturday, October 25th. Over the next couple of months the committee will be finalizing plans for this year's event. Once again at this year's event we will have AOS judging, plant sales by local vendors and the society, displays by our neighboring Orchid Societies, potting demonstrations, and much, much more. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please contact Phil Rietz or Gene Baum.

Phil Rietz
Newsletter Editor

<http://www.coastalvalleyorchidsociety.com>