July 8, 2015

(Note that there will be no Show and Tell this month)

Please join us for our Special July Meeting
**CGOS Barbeque & Garden Tour**
on July 8, 2015 starting 5:30 PM
at CGOS Member Henrietta’s Place
11932 Stephanie Lane
Garden Grove CA 92840

Society will provide the main dish (hamburgers & sausages) and we are asking the members to bring side dishes (potato salad, salad, baked beans, chips, dips, etc.)

Please Note that Cats & Dogs live at this house, so be prepared if you have any allergies.

RSVP: Robin (714) 616-6563 so we can get a head count for our logistics.

**Hope to See You There!**

**Directions:**

From the 22 Fwy, exit Euclid and proceed North toward the old meeting place; turn left onto Chapman and proceed West to Faye Ln, which is the first street past the Nutwood St. signal light on the right hand side; go North on Faye Ln. to Ramona and turn right, Henrietta’s house is on the corner of Ramona St. and Stephanie Ln. at 11932 Stephanie Ln. Garden Grove. Henrietta’s phone # is (714) 539-5222.
May speaker Peter Lin selected Renanstylis Queen Emma 'Nancy' x Renanthera monachica, grown by Theo Johnson, as his Speaker’s Choice. Theo graciously provided some notes about this plant.

“I have grown orchids for about 20 years. I grow about 40 percent in greenhouses and 60 percent outdoors. Mostly I grow Cattleyas and Cymbidiums with some Paphiopedilums, Oncidiums and assorted species thrown in.

The Renanstylis that received the Speakers Choice Award is a cross between Rnst. Queen Emma 'Nancy' (Ren. storiei x Rhy. gigantea) x Ren. monachica. The cross was made by Butch Weckerle-Thrun of the Rowland Collection in 2003. Butch made several crosses using Ren. monachica which were smaller in stature, but this cross with the Rnst. Queen Emma was by far the largest.

As Roberta and I made our way through repotting the multitude of orchids at the Rowland Collection, we decided that the formerly-heated greenhouse’s orchids needed attention. Once we reached the Renanstylis crosses, I was surprised at how well the plants of the Queen Emma cross were so vigorously growing. In fact, it pained me to have customers decide they wanted one of the Renanstylis because when they would pick up a plant, 2-3 other plants would become depotted in the process because the plant’s roots had traveled to those other pots.

At the time we repotted the Renanstylis plants, I was a little apprehensive at bringing some home since my luck growing Vandaceous types was a little less than mediocre. I had kept only one plant alive (I won’t say out of how many)
Speaker's Choice, From Page 2

and it was a 2-3 inch unnamed seedling my sister brought back from Hawaii. I knew as long as it wasn’t a mature plant I had a chance for success so I brought 3 plants back home with me and made sure they got good light, enough water, and a feeding every week. The plants responded by growing about ½ to ¾ foot in a couple of years, as compared to the ones we repotted at the Rowland Collection which were much smaller. That made my Vandaceous ego glow.

In the 2 years since I acquired the Renanstylis, I have acquired many Vandaceous plants which seem to like my greenhouses, blooming on an annual or semianual basis. This year the first of the three Renanstylis shot out a flower spike and bloomed almost fully for the June meeting.

I use either a balanced fertilizer from Growmore 20-20-20 or a high nitrogen fertilizer, also from GrowMore 30-10-10 both at ½ tsp per gallon. I also use a wetting agent from GrowMore called EZ Wet when I water. Most Vanda-type orchids could care less for a pot but the Renanstylis seems to like being potted in Cattleya bark (3 parts) with perlite (1 part), for now. My greenhouse in Costa Mesa gets a lot of light (5000 ft-candles) which makes the anthocyanin (reddish plant pigment) come through in the leaves.”

CGOS President’s Message

Summer is definitely here at my house. I have invited any of you who would like to come and see the way I grow my orchids. As I have said I grow a bunch outside, but not like Roberta who is a real expert on outdoor growing. (Ed. note: Only if an expert is defined as someone who has killed a couple thousand orchids) Theo also grows probably several hundred or more in the back yard under shade cloth and an old pepper tree. I noticed my orchids with thin leaves do not like that much sun so I moved many down off the edge of the bench. Catasetums grow fine outside in Orange under 55% light and I will bring some into the meetings to show how they produce flowers. As we all know all the Cymbidiums are finished blooming and hopefully the ones you own that needed repotting have been done. Many of the Cattleya family are in full bloom or just finished blooming. These are the ones with Laelias in their line of breeding. I do hope you will all come to the picnic next month as we have been doing this for years and it is a bunch of fun. It is a time to sit down and just talk about anything.

Richard Hess
Mid-July will be a busy time for orchid-buying opportunities. You can go north to Santa Barbara for the open houses at Cal Orchid and Santa Barbra Orchid Estate, then the next day go south to the open house at Andy’s Orchids. Or vice versa. Save some money and space, though, for Fascination of Orchids at the end of September!

If summer is a “down time” for orchids at your house, you need to expand the variety that you grow! Laelia purpuratas are popping out all over the place. When one fades, another one—or more—is just opening. Laelia tenebrosa is starting to bloom in typical fashion, as the L. purpuratas are winding down a bit. Both grow outside very easily. L. tenebrosa seems to need just a little more shade, and perhaps a bit more winter shelter, but conditions for both are quite similar. For me, they are happier hanging than on benches. They thrive in baskets, but are OK in pots in very large bark. In short, they need to dry out after watering. While individual Rhyncholaelia digbyana plants may bloom earlier or later, I find that they are most likely to show their frilly, fragrant beauty from late June through July. There are a bunch of Cattleya-tribe hybrids that also bloom at this time. (One has to suspect that Santa Barbara Orchid Estate bred them to bloom for the summer open house. Not exactly a coincidence, I think…)

Dendrobium amabile is right on schedule, too. It seems to produce the spikes very quickly, tucked under the leaves, and one hardly notices them until they suddenly open spectacularly.

Roberta Fox, Editor
Calendar of Events

*See flyer at www.coolgrowingorchids.com, select the Events link

- **Cal Orchid’s Summer Hummer**
  July 10-12, 2015 9 AM—5 PM
  1251 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
  Info: www.calorchid.com
  - Neofinetia falcata judging Japanese style Saturday Jul 11 2 PM. Meet Jason Fischer, Satomi Kasahara, Kristin Uthis
  - Lots of specials all over the nursery. Sobralias blooming.
  - Guest vendors: Tokyo Orchids Nursery (Japan), Suwada Orchids (Japan), New Horizon Orchids (California) - a rare opportunity to meet and talk to Andy Easton and buy some of his newest Cymbidiums
  - Delicious barbecue

- **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Summer Open House**
  July 10-12, 2015; Friday, Saturday 8 AM-5 PM, Sunday 9 AM—4 PM
  1250 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
  info: www.sborchid.com
  - Fragrant and exotic beauties of summer—Cattleyas, Laelias, Stanhopeas, and many others
  - Those wonderful $7.50 specials
  - Guest author Dr. Ken Cameron, Vanilla expert

- **Andy’s Orchids Open House**
  July 10-12, 2015
  734 Ocean View Ave, Encinitas
  Info: www.andysorchids.com

- **Newport Harbor Summer Exotic Plant and Orchid Festival**
  August 8-9; Friday 10 AM—9 PM, Saturday 10 AM-7 PM, Sunday 11 AM—6 PM
  Westminster Mall, Westminster
  Info: www.nhosinfo.org

- **Fascination of Orchids International Show and Sale**
  September 26-27, 2015, 10 AM—5 PM
  South Coast Plaza Village, 1631 W Sunflower, Santa Ana (Corner of Sunflower and Bear)
  Info: www.ocorchidshow.com
These vendors have generously supported our Society at the last Auction, and throughout the year. Please support them with your business. When you visit them, let them know that you are a member of our society. They need to know that our Society supports them.

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<td>858-755-7572, <a href="mailto:casa@orquideas.com">casa@orquideas.com</a></td>
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<td>(714) 979-5887</td>
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<td>Contact: Alice &amp; Parry Gripp</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:support@orcidwiz.com">support@orcidwiz.com</a></td>
<td>800-553-3387, <a href="mailto:sboe@sborchid.com">sboe@sborchid.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>760-639-6255, <a href="mailto:fred.clarke@att.net">fred.clarke@att.net</a></td>
<td>(714) 524-1730</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com">www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:orchides@pacbell.net">orchides@pacbell.net</a></td>
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**Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale**

Saturday, September 26 & Sunday, September 27, 2015
10 am to 5 pm — South Coast Plaza Village
1631 West Sunflower
Corner of Sunflower & Hewitt
Santa Ana, CA 92704

Exhibits • Seminars • Sales

Experience thousands of exotic orchids in a beautiful outdoor setting and learn how to grow and exhibit orchids from local experts.

Parking and admission are free

For more information please call
949.735.2030
or visit
ocorchidshow.com