

Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

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2011

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2010

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Newsletter deadline is the 25th
of the month prior to the month
of issue.

Meeting is 2nd Sunday of each month, at 2 PM

Placentia Library
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia

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March 14, 2010

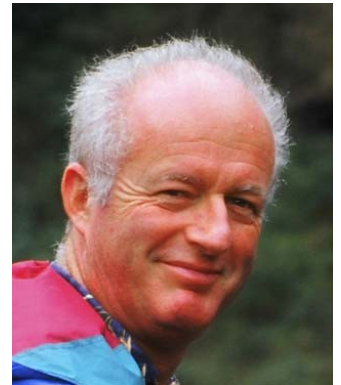
Peter Tobias

Strategies and Opportunities for Conservation with the Orchid Conservation Alliance

Peter Tobias first started growing orchids in Chicago in the early 1970s but his hobby only "...really got out of control" when he moved to Encinitas, a coastal town just north of San Diego, CA, in 1980. His collection is primarily species orchids, most of which are grown outdoors. In 1999 he visited the Atlantic Rainforest in Brazil at the invitation of Rosario Almeida Braga. After that visit he started his own little rainforest in two large backyard avocado trees. The rain for this forest has to be provided from a hose. Peter was a founding member of the San Diego County Orchid Society's Conservation Committee. The success of that endeavor in San

Diego led to the idea that orchid lovers nationwide, and even internationally, might support an organization devoted to orchid habitat protection. In 2006 the Orchid Conservation Alliance received its 501(c)3 designation from the US government, allowing it to collect donations tax-free for orchid-conservation purposes.

In his non-orchid life Peter is a professor of immunology at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA. In his laboratory he studies the mechanisms by which fatty plaques accumulate in the arteries and lead to atherosclerosis. Most of this better understanding of the beginnings of this disease will lead to better approaches to avoiding



or preventing it. Peter says that growing orchids or seeing them in the wild will probably not prevent atherosclerosis. However, lots of hiking to get to the orchids will probably slow its development and growing them will make you happier, both of which are good.

Speaker's Choice

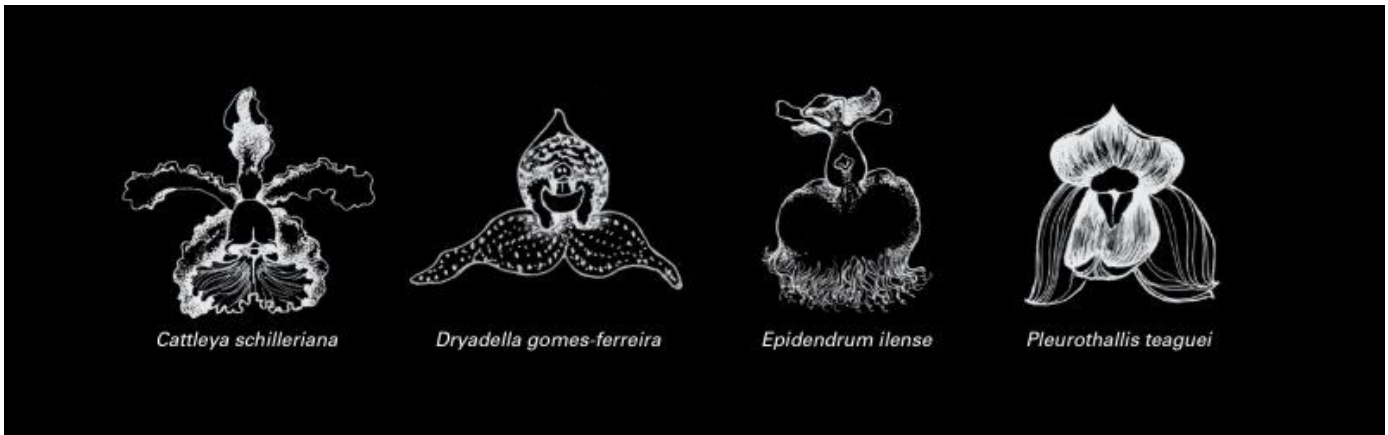
February speaker Bob Lauri selected *Aerangis citrata* 'Waterfield', grown by Jan Hennessey. Jan grows it in an intermediate greenhouse, and waters it about every 5 days. She has had the plant for several years, and it blooms reliably each year. She purchased it from Haiku Maui Orchids. Her father was born in Haiku. It was at the time a cane field, 2 road community on the way to Hana. According to Orchidwiz, the mother plant was exhibited by Haiku Maui Orchids in 2004, when it won a CCE/AOS with 406 spikes and 80 buds on 20 inflorescences. This cultivar

has excellent genes!

Aerangis citrata is native to Madagascar, where it grows over most of the island, at elevations ranging from sea level to 4900 ft, with occasional plants found as high as 6250 ft. Plants grow in the shade close to water. They can produce flower spikes even at very low light. They tolerate a very wide range of temperatures. Average summer temperatures range from 82-84 deg. F days to 62-64 deg. F. nights, winter days average 72-74 deg. F and nights down to 52-54 deg. F. However, at higher elevations they can tolerate winter night temperatures down to 38 deg. F. Since the plant requires high humidity, it may do better in a pot



than mounted, but the roots do need to dry out after watering..



Cattleya schilleriana

Dryadella gomes-ferreira

Epidendrum ilense

Pleurothallis teaguei

Kathi McCord for the Orchid Conservation Alliance

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

Margaret Mead

From the Members Corner

Jan Anderson visited us from Oregon. It was great to see her!

If you have not yet paid your dues, you MUST do so by the March meeting to be included in the roster and to continue to receive the newsletter! If you want to mail your dues, please send to:

E M Gulrich
1627 W Palais Rd,
Anaheim, CA 92802-2106.

Thank you.
Edie Gulrich

President's Message

Greetings to everyone.

When Ed Wise conducted our installation in December he asked us the purpose of our Society! That was an eye opening moment which made me read it. We aren't following "the purpose" which is for educational and scientific purposes, including but not limited to, working for the preservation of endangered orchid species, educating members in the preservation of orchid species, cooperating and participating in activities of other corporations, societies, and groups with purposes similar to those of this Society etc.

When reading the latest Orchid Digest on pg.6 "Café" there is a small notice about the restoration of a botanical garden in Ecuador. It was restored from a pasture that had been denuded and is now a healthy secondary forest plus over 250 orchid species that are growing well. The owner of the adjacent land wants to sell the property, which lies between the preserve and the encroaching town. If the town grows on to that land for what ever purpose the ecosystem of the preserve will be endangered. The owner of the preserve is trying to

raise money to purchase the adjacent land, to maintain it as a buffer and protect his preserve. Our orchid areas in the world are being compromised. We have heard the island of Madagascar is having the same type of problem, plus more areas if you are reading the news about orchids.

In March we are having a very interesting speaker, Peter Tobias, the President of the Orchid Conservation Alliance. Since we are a small Society it makes good sense to join with other small growers and societies to be part of a group that is larger in scale where more good can be done. We need a

focus and a purpose to help our club grow, get stronger, have access to a larger group. Together we can help others with the knowledge and information that so many of our group of growers can share, with new people and those that struggle to keep their orchids alive and flourishing as we appreciate our wonderful and exciting species.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting. Bring a friend!
Barbara Olson, President

Editor's Potting Bench

To follow up on Barbara's comments in the President's Message about the orchid preserve in Ecuador, here is a bit more of the "back story". Those who heard my talk on my orchid-seeking trip to Ecuador may recall the discussion of Jardín Botánico de Orquídeas. This thriving tropical forest is the 30-year labor of love of Omar Tello, an Ecuadorian accountant. In 1980 he bought 17 acres (7 hectares) of rainforest pasture land outside of the city of Puyo, Ecuador as a place to preserve a bit of the upper Amazon forest, which was being devastated by logging and oil extraction. He obtained the necessary permits, and began bringing rescued trees and their attached orchid plants onto his land. He found that the years as pastureland had badly depleted the soil, so that he had to

work large amounts of organic matter into it to permit the trees to root and grow. In the early years, he lost many plants to insects and animals. However, as the forest began to mature, gradually a wider range of insects, birds, and mammals moved in; in time there were enough predators to keep the pests in check, and pollinators to propagate the orchids and other plants. Within the last 8 years or so, the number of new species of animals and insects observed each year has begun to increase almost exponentially, and the preserve has become a stable, self-sustaining ecosystem.

However, the maintenance of this Amazonian forest depends on the presence of surrounding uncultivated land. Two sides of the reserve are now bordered by city neighbor-

hoods, and another side is bordered by the road. Only one side, the south, is bordered by pasture and a small remnant of secondary forest, the forest serving as a biological corridor that reaches down to a river bank area and larger section of secondary forest. Mammals are frequently observed using this corridor to arrive in the reserve, feed, and return. Tello has mounted a major effort to raise funds to purchase that 62 acre (25 hectare) parcel of land to improve the habitat and protect it from future development pressures. To learn more, see the website <http://jardinbotanicolasorquideas.com>.

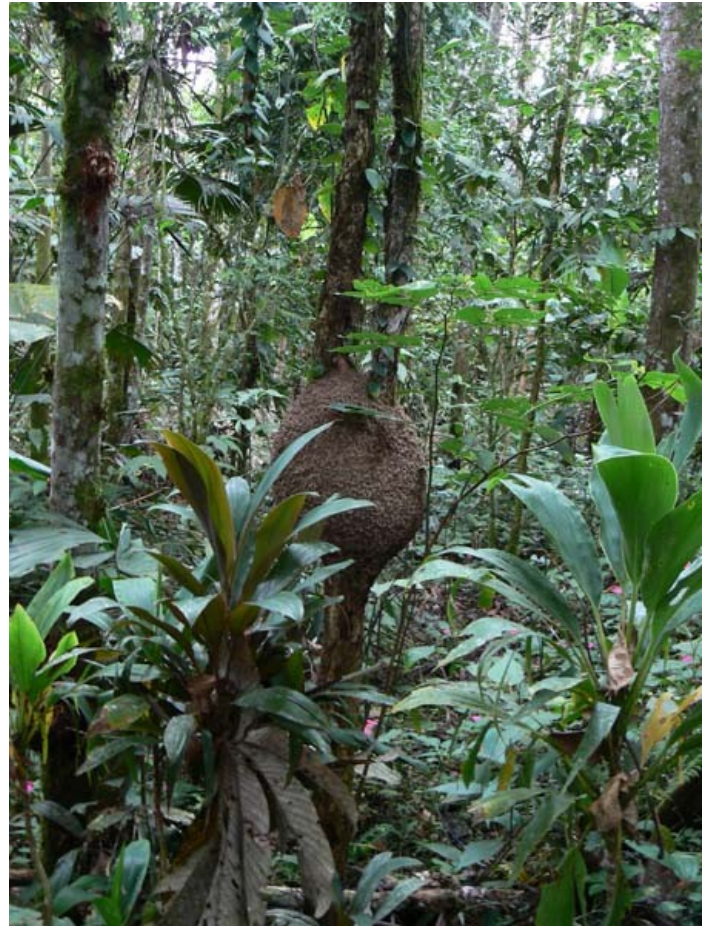
(See **Editor's Potting Bench**, Page 4)

Editor's Potting Bench *(From Page 3)*

The loss of orchids in the wild is primarily the result of human activity. Over-collecting and poaching are certainly an issue, but a bigger one is loss of habitat to farming, mineral and petroleum extraction, and urbanization. Therefore, an important strategy for habitat preservation (for orchids, and for all endangered and threatened species) is the acquisition of land by conservation-oriented groups to take those sensitive areas permanently out of circulation. Governments certainly can and do help, in setting aside national parks and reserves, but economic factors often intervene to dilute those efforts. (That is not



Barbosella cucullata and insect



Jardín Botánico de Orquídeas.-Termite Nest

only an issue in the developing world... our own government has also reduced the protection of endangered environments when there is a conflict with economic concerns.) To learn more about the Orchid Conservation Alliance, see <http://orchidconservationalliance.org/>

Roberta Fox

Triumphs at Oceans of Orchids

Southern California Orchid Species Society and members came away from the Oceans of Orchids Show, held at the Westminster Mall February 12-14, with some big awards. First, the Society display finished "in the money", winning third place in a large and excellent group of displays. A huge thank you to Dorothy Goldberg, Bob Laughlin, and also to everyone who contributed plants. But that's not all! Dorothy won a trophy for the Best of Section for Pleurothallis with her Pleurothal-

lis restrepiodes. Ed Wise won the Ron Capps Memorial Trophy for Best Paphiopedilum for his Paphiopedilum haynaldianum 'Gigantea'. Congratulations to both of you! (If any other awards were missed, please let me know and they'll be included next month. *Your editor*)

Calendar of Events

* See flyer at www.socalorchidspecies.com, select the [Events](#) link

- **March 6-7, 2010***
South Bay Orchid Society Show
Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Dr., Torrance
For more information: Marla Correy, 310-707-7097, marlacorey@sbcglobal.net
- **March 12-14, 2010**
Santa Barbara International Orchid Show
Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara, CA
For more information: www.west.net/nonprof/sborchid/
 - Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House
1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA
For more information: www.sborchid.com or 805-967-1284
 - Cal Orchid Open House
1251 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA
For more information: www.calorchid.com or 805-967-1312
- **March 26-28, 2010***
San Diego Orchid Society presents "A Rainbow of Orchids"
Scottish Rite Event Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego:
For more information: www.sdorchids.com
- **March 27-28, 2010***
Five Cities Orchid Society presents "Orchids Gone Wild"
South County Regional Center
800 W. Branch
Arroyo Grande, CA
For more information: www.fcos.org or 805-929-5749

(Continued on Page 6)



Pleurothallis restrepiodes
Best of Section for Pleurothallis



Paphiopedilum haynaldianum 'Gigantea'
Ron Capps Memorial Trophy for Best Paphiopedilum

Calendar, from Page 5

- **Orchids at the Flower Fields**

April 23-25 9 AM to 6 PM

5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad

For more information: www.theflowerfields.com or 760-431-0352

Mention that you saw the ad in the Southern California Orchid Species newsletter and get \$3 off!

- **Spring Garden Show**

April 22-25

South Coast Plaza

3333 Bear St., Costa Mesa



Southern California Orchid Species Society display at Oceans of Orchids

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.

<p>Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 1251 Orchid Dr Santa Barbara, CA 93111 805-967-1312, www.calorchid.com</p>	<p>Cal-West Tropical Supply Contact: Brad & Ryan Wicks 11614 Sterling Av Riverside, CA 92503 951-351-1880, www.calwesttropical.com</p>	<p>Casa de las Orquideas Contact: Loren Batchman 170 S Nardo Av Solana Bch, CA 92075 858-755-7572, www.orquideas.com</p>
<p>Orange County Farm Supply Contact: Chris Roy 1826 W Chapman Av Orange, CA 92868 714-978-6500, www.ocfarmssupply.com</p>	<p>Orchid Fever Contact: Aaron & Dave Thomas 10242 Culver Blvd Culver City, CA 90232 310-559-6599</p>	<p>Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 6961 Livingston Dr Huntington Bch, CA 92648 714-841-0442, www.orchidbasket.com</p>
<p>Mariposa Garden Contact: Ron Hill 6664 South St Lakewood, CA 90713 562-920-5588, www.mariposagarden.net</p>	<p>Paphanatics Contact: Norito Hasegawa 159 Monterey Rd Orange, CA 92866 714-639-1387</p>	<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 1250 Orchid Dr Santa Barbara, CA 93111 800-553-3387, www.sborchid.com</p>
<p>Sunset Valley Orchids Contact: Fred Clarke 1255 Navel Pl Vista, CA 92083 760-639-6255, www.sunsetvalley.com</p>	<p>The Rowland Collection Contact: Pat & Butch 12446 S Georgian St Garden Grove, CA 92841 714-892-3502</p>	