



# Southern California Orchid Species Society

[www.socalorchidspecies.com](http://www.socalorchidspecies.com)

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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

Volume 34, Issue 9

Placentia Library  
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia

September 2011

**September 11, 2011**

## Indoor—Outdoor Orchid Growing Structures for Southern California and Beyond

*Nico Goosens*

Nico Goosens is a grower and co-owner of Lico Orchids and Flowers, Encinitas, CA. His first exposure to orchids came in 1978 when he was given custodial care of a shipment of bare root central American orchids that had been questioned by US Agriculture, fumigated, held in quarantine, and warehoused for over two months, and finally refused by the consignee (due to the degradation of the plants). With time and lots of research on orchid care, Nico managed to bloom some of the plants thus marking the beginning of his passion for orchids. He continued to sparingly and cautiously dabble with orchids until about 1995 when Lisa Humphreys and he started Lico Orchids & Flowers.

Nico enjoys growing all kinds of varied orchid genera and especially species. He also very interested in the conservation of Southern California's local native orchids. He has traveled to Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Ecuador, and Brazil to see orchids growing in the wild.

Nico developed this presentation to answer the many questions that he is asked as a vendor, and to foster an understanding of the temperature groupings of many orchids. This program will continue to be developed as a series of talks culminating in explaining how to build a greenhouse and grow orchids in it. This presentation is currently focused on Southern California, but cultural explanations can be applied beyond. He wanted to develop this series to clarify how we all grow our orchids, whether we go high-tech or simple.



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## Speaker's Choice

August speaker Betty Kelepecz looked around an abundant show-and-tell table to find the one that she would most love to take home (no, not an option but she could wish...). She was drawn to the brilliant color of this spectacular example of *Sophronitis mantiqueirae* grown by Peter Lin. Peter grows the plant in an intermediate greenhouse. The temperature range is 45 degrees to 85 degrees F. He mists the plant every other day in summer, and about twice a week in winter. He has had the plant for about 5 years, and purchased it from Floralia, a Brazilian grower who often comes to Santa Barbara.

According to Charles Baker (cited in [Orchidwiz](#)), *Sophronitis mantiqueirae* grows in Brazil, in the states of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo in the mountain range known as the Serra da Mantiqueira. These mountains lie behind, and up to 50 miles further inland, than the coastal range. Where the crests of Serra da Mantiqueira rise to at least 5000 ft, forests of both hardwoods and conifers grow on both sides of the crests. The moisture-laden air condenses as rain and mist. There are also permanent creeks and seeps in valleys and creek gulches. *Sophronitis mantiqueirae* grows in cool, misty, humid conditions on lichen-covered trees within a few hundred feet of either side of the ridge



crests, and on moss-covered trees in creek gulches. The plants have been found in a range from 4000-6200 ft., but are most common above 5000 ft.

The Brazilian *Sophronitis* species have gone through some reclassifications. They were moved to *Hadrolaelia*, but most currently are listed in the Kew database as *Cattleya*.

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## From the Member's Corner

From the Members' Corner...We had a wonderful visit from Arthur Hazboun of the South Bay Society, who came to support our speaker, Betty Kelepecz, and her husband. He left us some flyers for their upcoming orchid sale in September. No new members, but lots of good members who shared their beautiful plants with us. Speaking of plants, please remember the auction is coming up October 9th, so go through your collection and see if there isn't something that perhaps you think someone else may have better luck with or a division of one of your great plants. Pots and orchid related items are great as well. Snacks, of course, will always be greatly appreciated by everyone!!!! If you would like to help we won't turn you down; it's good to share the work load. See you in September...

*Eddie Gulrich, Membership Secretary*

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## President's Message

Hi orchid fanatics!

The dog days of summer are surprisingly quiet, the temps not so bad, nothing unreasonable. But today, another story, very warm! The warm growers are loving it, lots of new growth. One thing, the mornings have been beautiful. I hope all of you are enjoying it.

What a fun, informative, helpful talk from Betty Kelepecz, thank you. Some great ideas for transporting orchids in the heat, too. Now we know why the *Masdevallia* defoliated in one day, don't repot in Feb or Nov. Also if they do, don't toss them out just wait and see if they are strong enough to put on new growth as one of mine did. However another one so far has not, still waiting and hoping!

Plus she was humorous besides, thanks Betty. To go along with Betty's presentation Nick brought in a fine exhibit of *Draculas* that he has grown which worked out fine in our show and tell. Plus we saw how he brought them so they wouldn't close up as they don't like to get warm.

There was a beautiful *Neofineta falcata* that looked like a bride's bouquet on a cork mount. So many incredible flowers brought in by Lisa Humphreys and Nico Goosens, our new members. It was breathtaking. Thanks for sharing it with us. Our show and tell was outstanding as always, with many different species.

Those that were at the meeting heard that Joy is stepping down from her position as refreshment chairman and is hoping that someone will step up and fill this position as she did.

She will remain on until after the auction. It doesn't have to be a woman, or just one person, it could be a gentleman or a couple (or couple of friends... Ed.) .

Next month please come, it sounds really interesting especially for people who are getting into species even those who have been around a long time and want to learn more. Next meeting Darrel Lovell will be at the podium as my husband and I will be on a cruise to Alaska so please support him, bring goodies, enjoy the meeting, buy lots of plants and as always bring a friend and introduce them to the world of orchids. Have an enjoyable meeting.

*Barbara Olson, President*

**AUCTION NOTE:** The October auction will take place in the patio outside the meeting room, as it has in the past. The auction will start at 1 PM (an hour earlier than the regular meeting) to allow us enough time to sell all of those wonderful items.

## Editor's Potting Bench

As a follow-up to last month's meeting, for lots of information about Pleurothallids in general, check out the website of the Pleurothallid Alliance, <http://www.pleurothallids.com/>. I didn't mention it last month because the site was down due to a hacking incident at press time, and I didn't know how long it would be unavailable. It is back up, and superb. For the genus *Masdevallia* alone, there are 25 screens, organized by the subdivisions within the genus. Many of the species have photos, as well as the location in which they are found. While there is not a culture reference for each plant, from the country and altitude information one can make a pretty good educated guess about growing conditions, particularly temperature.

One of my favorite Pleurothallids is *Dresslerella lasiocampa*. Both the plant and the flowers are delightfully



***Dresslerella lasiocampa***

fuzzy. It blooms at least twice a year, putting out several flowers per growth in succession. For me, it grows very well outside, and seems to want both lots of moisture (like most Pleurothallids) and lots of light (unlike

most Pleurothallids). It had been growing "OK" but not terribly well for me, until I read an article in *Orchid Digest* (April-May-June 2010) co-authored by Hugo Me-

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

dina (my excellent guide in Ecuador) on the genus. In that article was a discussion of where these plants grow, at relatively high altitude, in exposed areas. That indicates that the plant can tolerate moderately low temperatures, and wants bright light. Sometimes one needs to check several references, especially for relatively obscure species such as this one. Orchidwiz indicates that this is a warm growing plant (but does not give a reference, there is no Baker Culture Sheet for it) Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (Jay Pfahl's website) gives similar conditions (shady, warm), but the indicated altitude range of around 4500 - 5500 ft. in Peru and Ecuador is really not consistent with such warm temperatures. The Ecuagenera website hedges a bit, indicating that it is "intermediate temperature" and "medium light". There was enough information for me to decide that it really WASN'T a warm-grower, and my experience in growing it has been



From the side, the three little dew-tipped appendages are visible (on the dorsal sepal and the petals). The lateral sepals are fused.

borne out. It is a tricky flower to photograph because it is small (only about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch from front to back, a little less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide), complex, low color contrast, and has enough depth that it is hard to get the whole thing in focus. I take photographs of all of my orchids when they bloom. Some are flat and symmetrical, and it is easy to get a few photos to adequately describe the flower. This one is different - I made many attempts. To keep my photos straight, I label each with the unique number that I have assigned to the plant, and letters to indicate the indi-



Top view

vidual photos. So, an easy one may have photos "a" to "d", and then I don't take more because there isn't anything "new to say" about the flower. For *Dresslerella lasiocampa*, I have photos "a" to "s", taken over two years. I'm running out of alphabet, but think that I have finally gathered a decent collection of pictures to portray it. The photos show detail that is quite difficult to see with the unaided eye.

*Roberta Fox, Editor*



From the front, the lip and column are visible. The stems of two old flowers are visible behind this flower.

## Calendar of Events

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

- South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale\***  
 September 17-18, 9 AM to 5 PM  
 South Bay Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes  
 Adults \$8, Seniors \$6 (includes admission to the gardens), Free Parking  
[www.southbayorchidsociety.com](http://www.southbayorchidsociety.com)
- Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale\***  
 September 24-25, 10 AM to 5 PM  
 South Coast Plaza Village, NE corner of Bear and Sunflower (where Costa Mesa meets Santa Ana)  
 Information: [www.ocorchidshow.com](http://www.ocorchidshow.com) or (949) 735-2930
- San Diego International Orchid Fair \***  
 October 1-2, Sat, 9 AM—5 PM, Sunday 9 AM—4 PM  
 San Diego Botanic Garden (Formerly Quail Gardens), 230 Quail Gardens Dr, Encinitas  
 Admission: Saturday FREE, Sunday \$12 adults/\$8 seniors and students  
[www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org)
- Southland Orchid Show\***  
 October 14-16  
 Huntington Library and Botanic Gardens, San Marino
- San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Plant Sale\***  
 October 22-23, Sat. 12 PM to 5 PM, Sun 10 AM to 4 PM  
 Casa del Prado Building, Rm. 101, Balboa Park, San Diego  
 Parking and admission FREE  
[www.sdorchids.com/shows.htm](http://www.sdorchids.com/shows.htm)



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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>Andy's Orchids  Contact: Andy &amp; Harry Phillips  734 Oceanview Ave  Encinitas, CA 92024  760-436-4235,  www.andysorchids.com</p>	<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 &amp; 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>Ecuagenera  Contact: Ivan Portilla  PO Box 01011110  Cuenca, Ecuador  www.ecuagenera.com</p>	<p>Marcel's  Contact: Sonora Winward  5133 Kildee St.  Long Beach, CA 90808  562-843-5951</p>
<p>Mariposa Garden  Contact: Ron Hill  6664 South St  Lakewood, CA 90713  562-920-5588,  www.mariposagarden.net</p>	<p>Norman's Orchids  Contact: Norman Fang  11039 Monte Vista Ave.  Montclair, CA 91763  909-627-9515,  www.orchids.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>OrchidWiz  145 NE 95th Street  Miami Shores, FL 33138  305-758-3596,  www.orchidwiz.com</p>	<p>Outdoor Images  Contact: John Remlinger  6961 Livingston Dr  Huntington Bch, CA 92648  714-841-0442,  www.orchidbasket.com</p>	<p>Paphanatics  Contact: Norito Hasegawa  159 Monterey Rd  Orange, CA 92866  714-639-1387</p>
<p>rePotme.com  Floral Mixes and Supplies  10608 Floral Park Lane  North Potomac, MD 20878  301-315-2344</p>	<p>Rex Foster Orchids  Contact: Billy Baker  2645 Massachusetts Ave  Lemon Grove, CA 92945  619-466-0605,  www.rexfosterorchids.com</p>	<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate  Contact: Alice &amp; Parry Gripp  1250 Orchid Dr  Santa Barbara, CA 93111  800-553-3387,  www.sborchid.com</p>
<p>Seed Engei  Contact: Satomi Kasahara  1622 Moreno St  Oceanside, CA 92054</p>	<p>Sunset Valley Orchids  Contact: Fred Clarke  1255 Navel Pl  Vista, CA 92083  760-639-6255,  www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com</p>	<p>The Rowland Collection  Contact: Pat Rowland  12446 S Georgian St  Garden Grove, CA 92841  714-892-3502</p>
	<p>U.S. Orchid Supplies  Contact: Ram Ramakrishnan  1621 S Rose Ave  Oxnard, CA 93033  805-247-0086,  www.saicoir.com</p>	