



Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

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Newsletter

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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

Volume 35, Issue 2

February 2012

February 12, 2012

Orchids of California Carlos Ruiz

Carlos Ruiz grew up in the Mojave Desert, and fell in love with plants at a young age. He graduated from California Polytechnic University in Pomona with a degree in horticulture. Since then, he has been working with plants for his entire professional life. He has worked for Flowerdale Nursery as a horticulturist for about 8 years. He also teaches at Victor Valley Community College, teach-



ing classes on California Native Plant Identification and Usage, Plant Materials and Usage, Plant Propagation, and Natural Landscaping. Carlos has hiked extensively in wilderness areas, participating in field surveys. He specializes in native-species restoration. Among the wild plant species he has encountered are orchids, including an amazing number in Orange County. He will be sharing with us photographs and habitat information about the native orchids that grow very close to home.

Epipactis gigantea

Speaker's Choice

January speaker Daniel Geiger especially loves miniature orchids, and he selected a micro-mini, *Platystele stenostachya*, grown by Edie Gulrich. Flowers are about 1/8" or less (not easy to photograph!), but there are LOTS of them. Edie grows this plant in an intermediate greenhouse.

According to the Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (www.orchidspecies.com) and The Pleurothallis Alliance website www.pleurothallids.com, this species occurs over a very wide range, from Mexico, through Central America, to Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru. It occurs over a wide range of altitudes, from sea level to 9000 ft. (2800 m).

The Ecuagenera website www.ecuagenera.com indicates that this is a warm



grower, but the large altitude range indicates that this plant can acclimate to much cooler conditions as well. The source of a particular plant would certainly have a considerable effect on its adaptability to cool temperatures.



From the Member's Corner

Welcome to our newest members Doris and Larry Arakaki (they were part of the original founding group of our Society) and their friend Sumitra Bangchalotorn. We're glad to have you as part of our orchid loving family. Rosters will be printed in time for the March meeting, so please have your 2012 dues to me either at the February meeting or before the end of February at the latest. Thank you for your help with getting the roster out in a timely manner.

Name badges and pins are available for \$7 each. Please see me at the meeting, or email me if you want one.

Harold Buist, a member of our society and father of Janet Roberson, recently had a minor heart attack and stroke. He is recovering. Contact Edie Gulrich for more information.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

We started the new year off right with a great turn-out for our meeting!

Daniel Geiger, one of our new members, was our guest speaker. His talk on growing orchids in a terrarium was very informative and included lots of great ideas regarding the plants best suited to this environment and how to provide the ideal conditions to make them flourish. I hope Daniel will agree to speak again and share his knowledge of

varieties of wild orchids that grow in California.

Thanks to everyone who brought items for the refreshment table. We are still looking for a volunteer to prepare coffee.

This year Barbara Olson and Yolanda Brown will be in charge of the display table at the Westminster Mall in February. The theme will be Romancing the Orchid. If you can help with setup or take down please call

Barbara. We also need flowering plants. If you have any in bloom and would like to show them please contact Barbara.

One of the great things about being a member in a society like ours is being able to share experience and information. You get a chance to see some amazing orchids, and there is always someone who will have an answer to your question. Keep up the great work! See you at the February meeting.

Darrell Lovell, President

2012 NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID EXPO AND SALE

Nancy Benay

Come enjoy a week-end of orchids at this year's 11th Annual Orchid Expo and Sale hosted by the Newport Harbor Orchid Society. Show dates are Friday, February 10, 2012 through Sunday, February 12, 2012, in the Macy's wing at the Westminster Mall. Two large exhibit areas will feature displays by seven area orchid societies, including the Species Society, individual hobbyist and vendor displays. And whether you grow species or hybrids, you can indulge yourself with new orchids in the vendor sales area.

The Westminster Mall is located in Westminster, CA with easy access from the 405 Freeway at the Bolsa exit. Parking is free. The mall is fully handicap accessible.

The Orchid Expo and Sale hours are Friday, 10am-9pm, Saturday, 10am-7pm, and Sunday, 11am-6pm. Complete information is available at <http://www.nhos.org/shows/2012/home.html> or check us out on Facebook. Or better yet, plan to spend some quality time at this year's Newport Harbor Orchid Expo.

IMPORTANT !!! We are in need of plants for the Show at the Westminster Mall. We will need to have them prior to the 9th of Feb or you may bring them to the mall on the 9th between approximately 10 AM and 11 AM. If you have any just let Barbara know at 562 694-2244 or by email at barstan50@hotmail.com. They must be species. Also, contact Barbara for information about location and best way to bring the plants in. Thank you for helping.

Editor's Potting Bench

In February, the Show and Tell table will have competition. Some of our showiest plants will be gracing our display at the Expo in Westminster. That just means that you need to visit those, too. Still, there should be plenty of plants for the meeting. Some things just don't lend themselves to a display, being too small, or too sensitive to low humidity (like many Pleurothallids). Others will wait until after set-up day to bloom, but will be open on Sunday. I look at those buds, and say "Will it or won't it?"

It is only a month past the Solstice, but plants are noticing the lengthening days already. and there have been enough warm days for them to be thinking "Spring". It is especially noticeable with the terrestrials that are dormant, or pretty

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much so, in winter. *Bletilla striata* is already starting to appear. *Stenoglottis woodii*, which bloomed in the fall, is well underway, and *Stenoglottis longifolia* never really quit—the flowers just finished, last year's leaves dropped, and the new rosettes are already there. I watered these along with everything else—no need to dry them out.



Pterostylis curta has a different seasonality than most terrestrials. That one goes dormant in the summer. It grows along stream banks in Australia and New Zealand. From its growth pattern, I strongly sus-

Pterostylis curta

pect that it comes from a climate that is fairly similar to ours, with rain in the winter and dry, hot summers. I stop watering it in approximately mid-June, when the leaves drop, then repot and start watering in late July or early August. The growth appears a month or six weeks after water begins.



The earliest spikes have already started to open, and it should be in its full glory in a couple of weeks (hopefully in time for the show) . Another one for which I have high



Bonatea speciosa

hopes is *Bonatea speciosa*. Mine doesn't have a clear-cut dormant period; after blooming the growth will die back, but another tends to be developing shortly thereafter. Other people's *Bnt. speciosa* plants have already bloomed.

A delight with the very little plants is the discovery of flowers that hide and reward the observant "caregiver". I discovered my *Lepanthes vellicata* in bloom.



Lepanthes vellicata

Flowers develop mostly under the leaves, and are only about 1/8" or less. It sends out flowers sequentially on an inflorescence, and it has quite a few of those. This one is a greenhouse baby.

Roberta Fox, Editor

Calendar of Events

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

- **Newport Harbor Orchid Expo***
February 10-12, 2012, Friday 10 AM–9 PM, Saturday 10 AM-7 PM, Sunday 11 AM–6 PM
Macy's Wing, Westminster Mall
- **Mariposa Gardens Open House***
February 11, 2012, 9 AM–3 PM
6664 South Street, Lakewood
www.mariposagarden.com 562-920-5528
Come early for best selection. New varieties and “show only” Specials at every show
- **Pacific Orchid Exposition***
February 23-26, 2012
Fort Mason, San Francisco
- **South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale***
March 3-4, 2012 Sales 10 AM-5 PM, Show Sat. 12 PM-5 PM, Sun 10 AM-5 PM
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
3330 Civic Center Dr, Torrance
- **San Diego Orchid Society Show and Sale***
March 9-11, 2012, Friday 3-7 PM, Saturday 9 AM–6 PM, Sunday 10 AM–4 PM
Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego
Info: www.sdorchids.com or 760-529-2947
- **Santa Barbara Orchid Show***
March 16-18, 2012 9AM-5 PM
Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara



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<p>Andy's Orchids Contact: Andy & 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 & 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>Diamond Orchids Contact: Peter Lin 834 Featherwood Dr Diamond Bar, CA 91765 909-396-0334, www.diamondorchids.com</p>	<p>Ecuagenera Contact: Ivan Portilla PO Box 01011110 Cuenca, Ecuador www.ecuagenera.com</p>
<p>Lico Orchids Contact: Lisa Humphries & Nico Goosens 309 Via Nancita Encinitas, CA 92024 760-942-4143</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.com</p>

<p>Orange County Farm Supply Contact: Chris Roy 1826 W Chapman Av Orange, CA 92868 714-978-6500, www.ocfarmsupply.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 Orchid Mixes and Supplies 10608 Floral Park Lane North Potomac, MD 20878 301-315-2344, www.repotme.com</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 & 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>	