



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

Volume 35, Issue 4

April 2012

Placentia Library
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia
(Corner of Chapman and Kraemer)

April 8, 2012 at 2 P.M.

A Visit to Roberta Fox's Orchid Collection (Roberta's house, NOT the Library)

Tour of Growing Areas, Good Company, and Show-and-Tell

Since our April meeting date falls on Easter this year and the library will be closed, we are meeting at the home of Roberta Fox. You'll have plenty of time to explore the outdoor and greenhouse growing areas, have a snack (bring your favorite), and socialize. There have been some changes since two years ago! Then, we'll have our usual show-and-tell session. So, bring your blooming species orchids! There will be plenty of room to display them. The address is:

1854 Kentucky Pl. Costa Mesa

From the 405 Freeway, get off at Harbor and go south. Turn west (right turn) on Gisler, the first street south of the freeway. Landmark is In-n-Out Burger. Continue west on Gisler past two stop signs. After the second one, look for a yellow sign that says "Road Narrows". This is Washington (street sign is small, the "Road Narrows" sign is easier to see). Turn right on Washington, left on Illinois (first left), follow the road as it curves to the right and becomes Indiana. Second right off Indiana is Kentucky Pl. Phone is 714-435-8015.



Speaker's Choice

February Speaker Peter Lin chose *Pleurothallis ornata* (now classified as *Stelis*), grown by Roberta Fox. This plant is often referred to as *Pths. schiedei*, but according to Orchidwiz (and IOSPE and <http://Pleurothallids.com> as well), that name is actually a synonym for *Stelis* (*Pleurothallis*, *Specklinia*, *Effusiella*) *villosa*, which is quite different. (fuzzy, no fringes). The name "ornata" is Latin for "ornate" or "decorative", referring to the fringes. Those little white fringes flutter in the breeze, and send a "come hither" signal to insect pollinators.

This plant is native to many parts of Mexico, and also Guatemala and El Salvador. It grows at an altitude of 4500-7500 ft. (1500-2500 m). It favors cool, shady, humid conditions. Its growth habit lends itself to mounting, but when grown that way, needs daily watering (or even more in the warm summer months). The flowers open successively on each inflorescence over a period of several months, so spikes should not be cut until new ones emerge, when that it easier to determine which ones really are finished. The flowers have a musty



aroma, which is better characterized as "smelly" than "fragrant".



From the Member's Corner

Thank you to our guest Diane Woods for coming to our meeting, we hope you'll come back very soon and possibly become a member of our family. Sara Hess is back in Cedars-Sinai, running lots of tests; we don't have an exact date of when she'll be back home, but a card from folks would definitely be welcome. Snacks will be very welcome at Roberta's house for the Easter meeting. You'll enjoy her great collection of beauties. See you there and Happy Easter to one and all.

Please make the following corrections in your copy of the roster:
Ro Meadows was incorrectly identified as Roberta, please correct to reflect Ro and Janet Roberson's e-mail is also incorrect, please change to janet@dslextreme.com. Please excuse the inconvenience.

Eddie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

Let me begin by thanking Peter Lin for his excellent presentation on creating your own specimen plants at home. I always learn something new from Peter.

Last week my wife and I made our annual trip to Cambria. We both enjoy browsing through the antique stores, long walks on the beautiful beaches, and observing

the elephant seals. Of course for me the highlight of the trip is the stop in Santa Barbara on the way home for the International Orchid Show. I thought the show was fantastic this year – so many beautiful orchid displays! There seemed to be a lot more people in attendance this year, and many people I spoke to made the same observation. As usual, I came home with a few new additions to my orchid family!

Just a reminder – our April meeting will be at the home of Roberta Fox. If you have any questions about orchids, Roberta is the one to ask. If she doesn't know the answer, she can tell you where to go to find it. Hope to see you all next month!

Darrell Lovell, President

Just a quick note to those who have not seen the website of the Orchid Conservation Coalition, <http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org>. Maybe you even wonder where our donations go for conservation, have a look. It is a great way to keep the needs of the orchids and land where they grow in front of us. Look at the choices where we can put our money and still get value for it. This organization (which does not accept any donations) serves as a way for the various conservation efforts to explain what they are doing in one place. Why not check it out. You may get some ideas to tell others about it...

Barbara Olson, Vice President

Orchid Conservation Alliance Trip to Ecuador

November 4-17

Orchids in the Wild trip for 2012 will be to Ecuador. The details are still tentative, but save the dates!

The trip will start November 4 at the end of the combined IV Scientific Conference on Andean Orchids and the XI International Orchid Show in Guayaquil. The trip will terminate on Nov 17 in Quito. Along the way we hope to see *Cattleya maxima* in bloom along with lots of other Ecuadorian species big and small. We'll also visit several reserves including the Reserva Rio Anzu outside Baños and El Pahuma outside Quito.

Peter Tobias

Editor's Potting Bench

Our "show and tell" sessions are the highlight of our meetings. All of us love to share our successful efforts at meetings. Sometimes, though, we are SO successful that the plant is just too large to bring in. I received an email from Jan Hennessey with just that dilemma. She has a *Dendrobium speciosum* that she has had for number of years. She moved to Costa Mesa three years ago, and the plant has doubled in size. It's just too large to take anywhere. Well, that is a goal of our "virtual Show and Tell" on our website. You can see from the photo (next page) that the pot is not very large, particularly considering the size of the plant. *Den. speciosum* really doesn't like to have its roots disturbed, so it does very nicely outgrowing its pot, with roots pointing in every direction, including up. In Australia, they grow in the cracks of boulders. On a Web forum, I saw an entry in which an Australian referred to them as "rock lilies". I love it...

Speaking of plants too big to transport, you have all seen my photos of *Sobralia calliglossa*. At a height of about

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Editor's Potting Bench (From Page 3)

12 feet, it's not going anywhere. But it is in bloom again, and so when you come to my house for the April meeting, you'll get to see it in all its glory. Where its first bloom late last summer was one beautiful spike that produced one flower at a time over a period of almost two months, this time there are three spikes, each of which has two branches. So now, I have several flowers at a time. I'll have binoculars available for a good look.

I have finally gotten around to re-doing my website, which I have been wanting to do since I moved to my current house six years ago. I have much better photos, a much better growing area, and I have learned a lot about orchids since I created it about 12 years ago. There have been revisions, of course, but the way that it was organized made sense for a small collection in a small space, not the way that I think about it now. There comes a point where one must start from a blank screen and incorporate new knowledge in a coherent fashion. Although you can get to the new site from <http://orchidcentral.net>, you can get there directly if you go to <http://orchidcentral.org>. Enjoy!



Dendrobium speciosum at Jan Hennessey's house

relative. I have corrected the label. It happens...

Roberta Fox, Editor



Dendrochilum arachnites

I was delighted to see Dendrochilum arachnites bloom for me after being in my care for a full year. The name means "spider-like" and it certainly is. I have another Dendrochilum, labeled "arachnites", a very reliable bloomer that is not spidery at all. Actually, I think that it is Ddc. javieriense or close



Dendrochilum sp., labeled "arachnites" but probably javieriense



Dendrochilum javieriense

Calendar of Events

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

- **Central Coast Orchid Show and Sale***
March 31—April 1, Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5
South County Regional Center, 800 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande
Info: www.fcos.org or 805-929-5749
- **Mariposa Gardens Open House***
April 14, 9 AM—3 PM
6664 South Street, Lakewood
www.mariposagarden.com 562-920-5528
Join us for the last show of the season. New varieties and “show only” Specials at every show
- **Spring Garden Show**
April 26-29, South Coast Plaza (Bear Street Side), Costa Mesa
Lots of orchids, and other great plants.
- **San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Annual Auction***
May 17, Preview at 6 PM, Auction at 7 PM
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Gardens, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Info: www.sgvoh.org
- **Orchid Digest Speakers Day***
July 7, Huntington Library and Botanic Gardens
(See notice for list of speakers)
- **Santa Barbara Orchid Fair**
July 13-15, 9 AM—5 PM Friday-Saturday, 10 AM—4 PM Sunday
Earl Warren Showground, Santa Barbara
 - Open House at Santa Barbara Orchid Estate
 - Open House at Cal Orchid

TENTH ORCHID DIGEST SPEAKERS' DAY!

“ORCHID SALAD DAYS”

Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California
Saturday, July 7, 2012

Lecturers:

Marc Hachadourian, Jason Fisher, James Rose, George Vasquez

Dinner Speaker:

Orchid Digest Distinguished Lecture
David Banks

Save the Date!

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 & 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.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 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>	