



Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

Officers

President

Darrell Lovell (acting)

Vice President

Open

Society Secretary

Edie Gulrich

Membership Secretary

Edie Gulrich

egulrich@att.net

Treasurer

Susan Scheffler

Directors

2016

Phyllis Adams

Darrell Lovell

2015

Daniel Geiger

Ed Wise

2014

Roberta Fox

Dana Seelig

Orchid Show Representative

Barbara Olson

Yolanda Brown

Orchid Digest Representative

Barbara Olson

barstan50@hotmail.com

Refreshments Coordinator

Yolanda Brown

Raffle Coordinator

Open

Newsletter

Roberta Fox

roberta@orchidcentral.net

(714)435-8015

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

Meeting is 2nd Sunday of each month, at 2 PM
Kraemer Memorial Park
Backs Community Building, Main Room
201 N. Bradford Ave., Placentia
(Chapman and Bradford, parking off Bradford)

Volume 37 Issue 12

December, 2014

December 14, 2014

Sobralias For Your Garden

Tim Culbertson

Although he teaches middle school kids for a living, one of his passions has always been plants. He began growing orchids as an offshoot from working at Longwood Gardens in Philadelphia just after college. From the very beginning it was all about Paphs, particularly awarded and select clones of historic importance, of which his collection numbers nearly 3000. While he loves finding old, rare stepping stones in Paph breeding, he also does a little hybridizing of his own, and growing up his own babies is a blast. He is the youngest accredited judge with the American Orchid Society, and has served in various capacities with various orchid societies in California and on the East Coast. He loves meeting other people who like orchids too, and doing so often finds him traveling to shows, vendors, and peoples' greenhouses to see the latest and greatest in new hybrids and to get the best orchid gossip. He likes to be involved in plants as much as possible: in addition to Longwood, he has worked at the Smithsonian Institution tending to their orchids, and for years for the United States National Arboretum, collecting rare plants and documenting cultivated species and hybrids for their herbarium. In short, he really likes plants. For the meeting, He'll be sharing a presentation on Sobralias. These plants are easy to grow and flower, are vigorous, and can be grown outdoors in your gardens! He will be providing a plant table of the newest, modern, outdoor-growing Sobralias, with both large and seedling plants.



Sobralia xantholeuca

Speaker's Choice

November speaker Phyllis Prestia was perplexed when asked to make her "Speaker's Choice" selection. The criterion "The one I'd like to take home" didn't work because there were about a half-dozen of those. She finally settled on *Habenaria carnea*, grown by Peter Lin, as her selection, because it is "Rare, not often seen, and beautiful". Peter had not owned this plant though its full cycle, but has successfully grown other species of this genus. These terrestrial plants go dormant in the winter, and then receive no water. When the leaves start to yellow, he stops watering. If that doesn't hap-



Habenaria carnea

pen, he stops watering anyway by mid-December to trigger dormancy and to avoid rotting the growth point of the tuber. While ideally watering should resume when new growth starts, sometimes the plants need a bit of prodding. He starts watering the medium lightly in May to help initiate the new growth. This plant grows in a greenhouse, since it should not go below about 50 deg. F. at any time. This species originates in Thailand,. According to IOSPE (Jay Pfahl's website) it grows in evergreen forests at lower elevations.

From the Member's Corner

Two guests came in after the announcements: Barry Gordon and his guest. Thank you for joining us and hope to see you again very soon. A big Thank You to all who stepped up for this coming year's Officers and Directors. With your help we will grow and prosper. On a slightly sadder note, Daniel Geiger is having some health problems; maybe a line or two sent his way may pick up his spirits. Have a wonderful and thankful Thanksgiving. See you in December. Please remember your dues and there will be a Board meeting. Have a very good holiday.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

We had a great turn-out for the November meeting in spite of the location change. Our December meeting will be at the regular location: Backs Community Building at the Kraemer Memorial Park.

I would like to thank our speaker, Phyllis Prestia. Her presentation on *Catasetums* was excellent! I hope we can persuade her to return at a future date.

Mark your calendars for the weekend of December 5- 7! You don't want to miss Open Houses at Andy's Orchids,

Sunset Valley Orchids and Casa de los Orquideas. (Note that Andy's Open House is Friday and Saturday, the other two are Saturday and Sunday) It's a great opportunity to see what's in bloom and add to your collections! You can show your support of these growers by wearing your Species Society badge when you visit.

I look forward to seeing you at the December meeting.

Darrell Lovell

Board of Directors for 2015

President	Darrell Lovell	Director, 2015	Ed Wise (continuing)
Vice President	Nick Braemer		Janet Roberson
Secretary	Phyllis Adams	Director, 2016	Scott McGregor
Treasurer	Susan Scheffler		Roberta Fox
Membership Secretary	Edie Gulrich	Director, 2017	Marshall Lai
			Richard Hess

Editor's Potting Bench

While most of the country is getting slammed with previews of winter, fall has made a hesitant appearance for us. It sneaks into town with its shortening days, and nights that are finally chilly with some very warm, bone-dry days. I have had a few days where the greenhouse heater ran at night and the fogger came on in the afternoon to cool it. Not so much of the latter any more, though. Along with the Santa Ana winds, the heater also makes the greenhouse pretty dry unless I pay attention. But timing is everything—keep plants hydrated, but don't let them be wet at night.

I am finding the occasional surprise from plants that I thought were done for the season, producing more flowers. *Arpophyllum alpinum* is a reliable early-fall bloomer, usually in September. It put in its usual appearance, this year, but now I am finding it in bloom again. It's clearly confused by the weather, but I gratefully accept the bonus. This plant grows outside, on a bare cork mount. Its hard leaves indicate that it is capable of being quite dry. It has a rambling habit, so lends itself to growing mounted—it would not like a pot.



Arpophyllum alpinum

See: Editor's Potting Bench, Page 4

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

Another extremely rewarding outdoor-growing plant is *Dendrobium miyakei*. It blooms repeatedly, several times a year, on the old, leafless canes. In the meantime, it is putting out new growth, so that when those old canes do finally exhaust themselves (I think getting close) there will be newer ones ready to take over. Both of these plants have rather short-lived flowers, so that they don't necessarily time themselves for a meeting (though *Den. miyakei* has been to several other clubs, won't hold for this one.)



Dendrobium miyakei

After several years of trying to grow *Phragmipedium besseae*, I think that I have found an approach that works with my environment. Most of the orchids that I grow are those that will tolerate my city water. *Phrag. besseae*, however, really does need better water. The breakthrough came when I created a setup (shown in a previous newsletter) to grow *Disas*, which also need pure water, and coincidentally, also come from a riparian habitat with flowing water. For most of the year, *Phrag. besseae* plants were in the same "fountain" as the *Disas*. However, as the night temperatures drop, *Phrag. besseae* does need to be kept warmer than the *Disas*. (I learned the hard way that they don't want to

go below about 45 deg. F) I set up a similar arrangement in the greenhouse, with a small fountain pump in a tray containing RO water from my drinking water unit. The pot has about two inches of diatomite rock at the bottom, that actually sits in the water, then small *Orchiata* bark. This particular plant is in a clear pot, so I can see that the roots are growing nicely down toward the moist rock that sits in the water, but they also get humid air in the upper part of the pot.

Phrag. besseae blooms successively. The old flower, still looking nearly perfect, drops when the next one is open. However, for a few days I was able to enjoy two of these jewels at the same time.



Phragmipedium besseae

Roberta Fox, Editor

Calendar of Events

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

- **Andy's Orchids Holiday Open House***
December 5-6 (Fri-Sat), 10 AM—4 PM
734 Ocean View Ave, Encinitas
Info: www.andysorchids.com

- **Casa de las Orquideas Open House***
December 6-7(Sat-Sun), 9 AM—4 PM
170 S. Nardo Ave., Solana Beach
Info: casa@orquideas.com or (858)755-7572

- **Sunset Valley Orchids Annual Open House***
December 6-7 (Sat-Sun), 9 AM—4 PM
1255 Navel Pl, Vista
Info: www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com or (760) 310-0778
 - Once a year discounts on all of our stock, New Zealand “Kiwi Orchid Bark”, Hot Dogs and refreshments

- **San Diego County Cymbidium Society Annual Auction***
February 7, 2015; Preview at 11 AM, Auction 12:00 PM
Lake San Marcos—Lake Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos
Info: orchldy1@mac.com or (760)732-0555

The Orchid Digest presents
the 59th Paphiopedilum Guild Meeting and
First World Slipper Orchid Conference

in Hilo, Hawai'i
January 17 and 18, 2015
Tickets: \$95

Order your tickets online at www.orcihddigest.org or
download registration form and send to Orchid Digest, PO
Box 6966, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607

Complete agenda and hotel information on the Website!

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 760-436-4235, info@andysorchids.com www.andysorchids.com</p>	<p>Asbell Orchids Contact: Bob & Dan Asbell 805-550-5484</p>	<p>Blossom Supplies Contact: Gordon Hong 626-975-5293, blossomplanting@aol.com www.blossomproducts.com</p>
<p>Calavo Gardens Orchids Contact: Ben & Suzy Machado 619-660-9810, BMACH16814@aol.com</p>	<p>Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 805-967-1312, calorchid@cox.net www.calorchid.com</p>	<p>Casa de las Orquideas Contact: Nancy Batchman 858-755-7572, casa@orquideas.com www.orquideas.com</p>
<p>Diamond Orchids Contact: Peter Lin 909-396-0334, mini-catt99@yahoo.com www.diamondorchids.com</p>	<p>Ecuagenera Contact: Ivan Portilla info@ecuagenera.com www.ecuagenera.com</p>	<p>Estate of Patricia Rowland Contact: Theodore Johnson (714) 979-5887,</p>
<p>Everything Orchids Contact: Linda Gardner (619)252-1294, everythingorchids@cox.net www.everythingorchids.biz</p>	<p>Floralia Contact: Steve Champlin info@floralia.com.br www.floralia.com.br/index.html</p>	<p>Gold Country Orchids Contact: Alan Koch 916-645-8600, gcorchids@aol.com www.goldcountryorchids.com</p>
<p>Granite Hills Orchids Contact: Tom Biggart (619) 441-9874, tombiggart@mac.com www.granitehillspotteryandorchids.com</p>	<p>Green Thumb Nursery Contact: Jason Moine 949-837-3040, www.greenthumb.com</p>	<p>Hatfield Orchids Contact: George Hatfield 805-901-0340, www.hatfieldorchids.com</p>
<p>Lico Orchids Contact: Lisa Humphries & Nico Goossens 760-942-4143, licoorchid@aol.com</p>	<p>Mariposa Garden Contact: Ron Hill 562-920-5588, www.mariposagarden.com</p>	<p>Mr. Fertilizer Contact: Don Knipp 949 -548-2678,</p>
<p>Orchid Design Contact: Angelic Nguyen 408-947-0486 angelic@orchidesign.com www.orchidesign.com</p>	<p>Orchids of Los Osos Contact: Michael Glikbarg (805) 528-0181, orchidland@aol.com www.orchidsoflososos.com</p>	<p>OrchidWiz 720-524-3774 support@orchidwiz.com www.orchidwiz.com</p>
<p>Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 714-841-0442, www.orchidbasket.com</p>	<p>Paphanatics Contact: Norito Hasegawa 714-639-1387, norito1@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Phrao Orchids Nursery Contact: Katai phraoorchidsnursery@gmail.com www.facebook.com/Nursery.at.Phrao</p>
<p>rePotme.com Orchid Mixes and Supplies 301-315-2344, customer_service@repotme.com www.repotme.com</p>	<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 800-553-3387, sboc@sborchid.com www.sborchid.com</p>	<p>Seed Engei Contact: Satomi Kasahara , seed_engei@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Sorella Orchids Contact: Nenita Sorella 360-607-9342, www.sorellaorchids.com</p>	<p>Sunset Valley Orchids Contact: Fred Clarke 760-639-6255, fred.clarke@att.net www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com</p>	<p>Tuyet's Orchids Contact: Tiep Nguyen</p>