



Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

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Dana Seelig

Vice President

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Society Secretary

Holly Hillman

Membership Secretary

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2018

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2017

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Barbara Olson

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Raffle Coordinator

George Allen

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
Whitten Community Center
900 S. Melrose , Placentia
(until further notice)

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November 2016

Member Plant Sales: On Page 2, see how you can benefit yourself and SCOSS!

November 13, 2016

Thai One On...

Tom Biggart

Tom Biggart will “Thai one on” with some general notes on the culture of orchids of northern Thailand. In this talk he will present some cultural and climatic information on the area where the orchids are found. This will give the participants some clues on how to grow and bloom these amazing plants.

Tom Biggart is the owner and head grower of GRANITE HILLS ORCHIDS IN El Cajon, California (a small town 15 miles east of San Diego). His nursery is a hobby business which means he doesn't make a living growing plants. It is more of a labor of love! Tom loves plants in general, and orchids are his main passion. He is very interested in Encyclias and has a large collection of Encyclia species and hybrids. The Australian cool growers are a current interest as well as Brazilian rupicolous Laelias. He is a retired elementary school teacher with orchids as his new students. He would love to have anyone stop by to talk orchids should one be in the San Diego area.

The past few years he and his wife, Neal, have gotten interested in Ceramics. In typical Biggart fashion they now have a throwing building, a glazing building, and a kiln yard with 3 kilns. His pottery is designed primarily for plants and can be seen at most of the local orchid shows and at the nursery. He would love to talk orchids and pottery with anyone interested!



Cymbidium lowianum

Reviving An Old Standard

A few years back, we used to have a practice of members bringing in plants for sale, and occasionally people still do. But for the most part we have not pursued this much recently. So...we're back. There are forms for single plant sales (fixed price), a sheet for multiple plants (fixed price), and silent auction items (price set by the person who wants it the most). As in the past, there will be a 75%/25% split. For every plant sold, 25% goes to the Society and 75% goes back to the member who brought the plant(s) in for sale. Of course, if you would like to designate all of the proceeds for the Society, that would be deeply appreciated. Make sure that your Member Plant Sales or Silent Auction Form states that clearly if you are donating the full price. Please look for the Member Plant Sales Sign near the Refreshment Table. Species, hybrids and "companion plants" are acceptable. As always, please make sure the plant is pest and disease free and in good condition. Remember if you wouldn't want it in your collection, it's not a good idea to pawn it off onto someone else. There will still be the Opportunity Table when speakers bring in plants for that table, of course.

So let's make some money for the Society!

Proposed Officers and Directors for 2017

Here is the proposed slate of officers and directors for next year. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. If any positions are contested, we will vote in December before the installation. If there are no contested positions, these will be elected by acclamation at the November meeting.

President	Dana Seelig
Vice President	Edie Gulrich
Society Secretary	Roberta Fox
Membership Secretary	Holly Hillman
Treasurer	Susan Scheffler
Directors, 2019	Janet Roberson TBN
Directors, 2018	Alexandra Allen Darrell Lovell
Directors, 2017	Richard Hess Marshall Lai

From the Member's Corner

First, this very important note: **The December meeting will be back at the Aguirre Community Building on Jefferson**, due to the City's month long Christmas events at the Whitten Community Center. This is the location where we met in June. Map and directions will be in the December newsletter.

if you didn't attend the auction, you missed a nice treat. Janet Roberson was our auctioneer and she did a great job. Wish we had more bidders. We did have 3 guests and a new member join us. Nohline L'Ecuyer, past president of the Orange County Orchid Society, joined us as a new member. Welcome aboard. Our three guests were: Ron DeWilde and Michael Selbo, both from Huntington Beach and Medrick Bullock from San Diego. Thank you for coming and we hope to see you again very soon.

Board members: Please plan to stay a few minutes after the general meeting for a Must Attend board meeting.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

It's definitely Orchid season, if you did not have the opportunity to attend the sales and shows in October there are more in November and December. Last month was our auction and those who attended got some real bargains! We really missed those who could not attend.

The weather is changing; I notice that my heavy water schedule is too much. Most of my plants are still wet after a week, even with the periodic Santa Ana Winds. There is a lot of information on the web about taking care your orchids as we go into winter. I like the AOS web site.

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/november-december-checklist.aspx>

There are so many things that we hear about in raising orchids that never really pan out. However, I recently

heard about Keiki Paste, that's right, and purchased some on line. (For those that are more adventurous, there is a recipe with an expensive list of ingredients.) I purchased a small amount and it looks like lip-gloss. So you place a small amount on a toothpick or Q-tip then apply it to an "eye" (future growth). I placed some on a cattleya back growth in April. One that Richard Hess would tell me to throw into the trash. I now have 2 growths from the back growth that would probably have shriveled and died. That's what you sometimes get for being a bit adventurous.

All board members should plan on attending a Board Meeting immediately following our regular November meeting.

See you in November!

Dana Seelig, President

Editor's Potting Bench

October has been a wild and crazy month for orchid events, highlighted by our own auction. If you missed it, you missed a chance to get some outstanding orchids for bargain prices. And you also missed a chance to help the club, since the auction is the source of most of our funds. On an ongoing basis, you can help both the club and yourself, by participating in Member Sales and Silent Auction at each meeting, as a seller, a buyer, or both. If you sell plants, you make room for more orchids while making some money (which you could spend on some of those plants offered by other people). If you buy, you get new plants and a share goes to the club. Win win, I think.

I think that I have finally consolidated my acquisitions from a busy month. Quite a few needed potting or mounting, even though we don't think of fall as a big time for those activities. Bare root plants of course need that even if it isn't the optimum time. Some that were outgrowing pots also needed attention. If there are new roots, it's a good time to pot. I try, especially at this time of year, to not disturb roots, but rather just slide the plant out of the old pot, into the new pot or basket, and add some bark to complete the job. But

we do still have at least a month of fairly good weather left, with nights not below mid 50's F.

I freely admit that I am a "What can I get away with?" orchid grower. When I "push the envelope" and have success, I'm stoked. My latest triumph is *Cattleya guttata*. I know that this Brazilian species can take heat and low humidity. Cold tolerance was the unknown. I



See: **Editor's Potting Bench**, Page 4

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

obtained this plant bare-root of Fascination of Orchids two years ago. I potted it up in large bark, so that was September. Being recently from Brazil, there's also the issue of flipped seasons. Bifoliolate Catts have a reputation for being unhappy when potted at the wrong time, but I guess it was the right time for this one. At any rate, it rooted well. I hung it in my Cattleya area with overhead protection (polycarbonate) but it certainly experienced some cold nights in two winters. It bloomed in early October on two growths, so I think that this was a definite success. It's still a baby, pseudobulbs only about 18 inches. I can expect 3-4 feet eventually, and I think it will get there.

I got a pleasant surprise from *Lycaste deppei*. It has bloomed every June since I acquired it from Peter Kurtz 8 years ago, blooming from leafless pseudobulbs while the new growth is just starting. I peeked under the large leaves to discover three new buds that bloomed in the last few weeks. Some other *Lycaste* species will bloom more than once in a season, but it is the first time that this one has done it. I find that these grow well on the

sphagnum when I got it, and I have continued to grow it that way.



Back to outdoor-growing *Cattleya* species, *Cattleya percivaliana* is very dramatic. This one also benefits from some overhead protection in winter, but seems to handle cold with that modest accommodation. *Cattleyas* in general don't need—or want—as much water as others that don't have such substantial reserves. Even in the summer heat, they only get water about every three days unless it is really dry and scorching for a long time. As the night temperatures dip, I am now cutting back to every 4 days, and soon it will be once a week. The hard cover lets me control the water even if it rains, as well as keeping the plants dry when it is cold.

Roberta Fox, Editor



shady north side of the house, in small bark, kept quite damp.

One of my favorites is *Zygopetalum maxillare*. Of the various *Zygo* species, I just love the colors of this one—it almost glows. It's a rambler, doing better in a basket than in a pot. It is a reliable fall bloomer. I grow it fairly shady, and damp—it was originally in



Calendar of Events * indicates that event flier is on the website.

- **Cal Orchid Fall Open House**
November 5-6; Sat. 9 AM–5 PM, Sun. 9 AM–4 PM
1251 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
Info: www.calorchid.com
 - **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Fall Open House**
November 5-6; Sat. 8 AM–5 PM, Sun. 9 AM–4 PM
1250 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
Info: www.sborchid.com
 - **Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Show and Sale***
November 19–20; Sat. 10 AM–5 PM, Sun. 10 AM–3 PM
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History,
2559 Puesta Del Sol Road, Santa Barbara
Info: fmorchids@hotmail.com
 - **Andy's Orchids Winter Open House***
December 2-4: 10 AM–4 PM
734 Ocean View Ave., Encinitas
info: www.andysorchids.com
 - Spend those Orchid Bucks that you have accumulated!
 - **Sunset Valley Orchids Open House***
December 3; 10 AM–4 PM
12555 Navel Place, Vista
info: (760) 310-0778 or www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com
 - Authentic handmade “street tacos” 10 AM–2 PM
 - **Casa de las Orquideas Annual Open House***
December 3-4; Sat. 9 AM–4 PM, Sun. 9 AM–1 PM
170 S. Nardo Ave, Solana Beach
info: (858) 755-7572 or www.orquideas.com
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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 Phillips 760-436-4235 info@andysorchids.com www.andysorchids.com</p>	<p>Aroma Orchids of Rowland Heights Contact: Michelle Liu 626-839-3888 aromaorchids@gmail.com</p>	<p>Asbell Orchids Contact: Bob & Dan Asbell 805-550-5484</p>
<p>Blossom Supplies Contact: Gordon Hong 626-542-3915</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>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>Hatfield Orchids Contact: George Hatfield 805-901-0340, www.hatfieldorchids.com</p>
<p>Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens Contact: Brandon Tam btam@huntington.org www.http://huntington.org</p>	<p>Lico Orchids Contact: Lisa Humphries & Nico Goossens 760-942-4143, lico_orchids@aol.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>Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 714-841-0442, www.orchidbasket.com</p>
<p>Phrao Orchids Nursery Contact: Katai phraoorchidsnursery@gmail.com www.facebook.com/Nursery.at.Phrao</p>	<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 800-553-3387, sboe@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>Tayama Greenhouses, Inc Contact: Mike Kimura tayama.mike@gmail.com www.tayama.com</p>
	<p>Wise Orchids Contact: Ed Wise 714-524-1730;orchides@pacbell.net</p>	