

Southern California Orchid Species Society

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 33, Issue 5

Placentia Library
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia

May 2010

May 9, 2010 2 PM

**Meeting at the home of Roberta Fox
(NOT at the library!!!)**

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

We are doing something a little different this month. Instead of the standard meeting format, we're taking a "field trip" to 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. 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. It is Mother's Day, feel free to bring the

mothers in your life, too. It will be a pleasant and relaxing afternoon.

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. Landmarks are Kaplan's Deli and Arco gas station. 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.



For a preview, check out <http://orchidcentral.net>

Speaker's Choice

April speaker Harry Phillips selected *Laelia jongheana* as his favorite plant on a very crowded and diverse Show-and-Tell table. This plant was grown by Peter Lin. Peter grows this in an intermediate greenhouse, which can be as low as 45 degrees F. in winter, and near 100 degrees in summer. Still, this greenhouse gives Peter's plants some protection, since he lives in Diamond Bar, which does have winter frost, wind, and low humidity. It can grow outside in coastal areas with a more temperate climate. However, it needs to be kept a bit drier in winter and so, if grown outside, would also need to be protected from the rain. Peter recommends growing it either in a basket or mounted; it does not grow well in a pot. He grows the plant in bright light, near the top of the greenhouse.

Laelia jongheana grows in Brazil, but is very rare in the wild. It grows in the mountains, at altitudes between 4200 and 5200 ft (1300-1600 m). "Plants are attached to trees that grow in steep-sided rocky gulches. Even in dry season, these gullies have at least a trickle of flowing water". (Charles Baker, as quoted in *Orchidwiz* <http://orchidwiz.com>) According to Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (IOSPE) <http://orchidspecies.com> this plant can be grown from cool to



warm temperatures, bright to direct light, and with plenty of water during the growing season. This is a species whose genus has moved around so fast that *Orchidwiz* can't quite keep up with it ... If one looks up "*Laelia*" *jongheana*, the favored genus is shown as *Cattleya jongheana*. But if one looks under "Names", where synonyms are listed, the name with a green check mark (indicating the preferred epi-

thet) is *Sophronitis jongheana*. IOSPE lists it as *Laelia*. Don't change the tag, clearly the taxonomists are still debating how this species relates to the rest of the *Cattleya* tribe.

From the Membership Corner

James Rose of Cal-Orchid has offered a tour of his greenhouse in the month of August, the exact date (a Sunday) yet to be finalized as we are sharing the bus with OCOS. We will have a sign up sheet and a request for deposit in May or June, just as soon as we have a date, which will probably be either the 8th or the 15th. There will be a lunch provided by Cal-Orchid, details to follow.

Edie Gulrich

President's Message

Greetings to all Orchid Lovers.

A big thank you to Harry Phillips and our very interesting meeting. Making our own small green houses for our miniature orchids is going to be an adventure in creativity for those of us who only grow outdoors. We need these ideas since our weather is so "flaky".

Thanks, Harry for the challenge. Especially since it is so easy. How about a garment bag from the cleaners for a wildly growing *Bulbophyllum fraudulentum*? Think that might contain it?

The opportunity table was very interesting, from Andy's Orchids. They always have exciting plants and different types of species. "Species are so wonderful" and unpredictable, which brings up such lively discussions among the members.

Our next meeting will be held at Roberta Fox's home in Costa Mesa. Please come for the meeting and an opportunity to see how Roberta grows her beautiful plants. It will be a regular meeting, followed by a board meeting, also show and tell so bring your species and let's show them.

Save August for a great trip to

Santa Barbara as we have been invited to Cal Orchid for a tour and barbeque and of course if you find a plant you just can't live without, I'm sure you'll be able to get it. Plus we will be going by bus, maybe a little nap coming home?

Barbara Olson, Pres.



Laelia johgheana, close up

Editor's Potting Bench

Species aficionados are a very special subset of the larger orchid community. Our society provides a wonderful forum for people to share their interest in the natural, sometimes weird, sometimes small orchids that tend to get lost on other society display tables. Species fanciers find various ways of finding others that share their passion. San Diego Orchid Society has the Conservation Committee

<http://www.sdorchids.com/www/conservation.htm>, which sponsors orchid conservation projects (and was the place where the Orchid Conservation Alliance began) Within the Orchid Society of Southern California

<http://www.orchidssc.org> there is an Orchid Species Study Group. One of the members of OSSC, Carlos Cruz, has also started an on-line discussion group

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/osscc/discuss> primarily devoted to species. There are links to articles on that site on our own website Links page. Do you want to know which of the Vandaceous species can grow outside? Check out the article that Carlos wrote, after compiling information gleaned from a large number of backyard growers. The link is

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/osscc/discuss/72157622219346509/> or just go to

<http://socalorchidspecies.com>, select the "Links" page, and click on the link to Monopodial Orchids in Southern California. There are LOTS of them!

I look forward to seeing you at my house for the next meeting. Each day seems to bring lovely surprises. I am seeing spikes on plants that have never bloomed for me before, and of course I'm impatient. I purchased a big *Arpophyllum spicata* (I have it in a 10" basket) 2 years ago at the auction, and it is finally just starting to bloom (so should still be in bloom when you visit). This plant has been teasing me for a long time – the sheaths developed at least 6 months ago, and have been looking like "bloom any minute" for 3 or 4 of those months. *Dendrobium speciosum* is done, most of the *Den. kingianum*s are also finished though there

are a few flowers here and there. But the Aussies have come back in force with *Sarcochilus hartmanii* plants are springing into bloom, I'm waiting for a *fitzgeraldii* that will be blooming for me for the first time. These do seem to prefer to be a little drier in the winter. I didn't protect them from rain, but did put them where the sprinklers didn't reach them, and avoided watering them with the hose unless the Santa Anas were blowing. Even plants that like to be on the dry side don't particularly like being desiccated in 5% humidity!

I took a look at the photo of my patio from last May, a hint of what else may be blooming. *Guarianthe (Cattleya) skinneri* is in bud as of this writing, *Guarianthe (Cattleya) aurantiaca* is just emerging from sheath. *Den. hancockii* is in bloom, but there are still a few unopened buds, so that one is likely to still be blooming too. (That is one that I'm glad I don't have to wrestle into the car...) There will, I am sure, be some more surprises. And I am eager to see what blooming plants YOU bring for Show and Tell. I'll see you soon!

Roberta Fox, Editor



Sarcochilus hartmanii

Calendar of Events

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

- **San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Auction***
May 20 7 PM
Los Angeles Arboretum and Botanic Garden
310 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
- **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate International Orchid Fair***
July 9-11, Fri-Sat 9 AM–5 PM Sun 10 AM–4 PM
Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara, CA
www.orchidfair.com
 - Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House
1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara
 - Cal Orchid Open House
1251 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara
- **Fascination of Orchids International Show and Sale***
September 25-26 10 AM–5 PM
South Coast Plaza Village
Corner of Bear and Sunflower
www.ocorchidshow.com

EIGHTH ORCHID DIGEST SPEAKER'S DAY!!

"CATTLEYS"

Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California

Saturday, June 12, 2010 – Noon to 8:00 pm in *Friends Hall*

FEATURING

All Genera Flower Display – Orchid Sales– Expert Lectures – Dinner

Remember!! Open at 11:00AM to bring your blooming plants for the flower display

Prize for best species and best hybrid

Lecturers: Greg Allikas; Bill Rogerson; Amy Chung and Harry Akagi

Dinner Speaker: Frank Fordyce

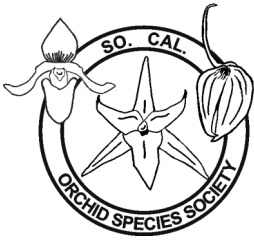
VENDORS: H & R; Sunset Valley Orchids; Cal Orchids; Andy's Orchids; and Norman's Orchids

Tickets: \$60 (\$70 at door) for afternoon Seminars, Wine and Cheese Happy Hour; Dinner and Evening Entertainment

Please Contact: Simone Friend, 4349 Dogwood Ave., Seal Beach, CA 90740

Phone: (562) 431-1247 E-mail: orchidsimonef@aol.com

Make Your Reservations Now!



Southern California Orchid Species Society, Inc
 Roberta Fox, Editor
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 Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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.

Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 1251 Orchid Dr Santa Barbara, CA 93111 805-967-1312, www.calorchid.com	Cal-West Tropical Supply Contact: Brad & Ryan Wicks 11614 Sterling Av Riverside, CA 92503 951-351-1880, www.calwesttropical.com	Casa de las Orquideas Contact: Loren Batchman 170 S Nardo Av Solana Bch, CA 92075 858-755-7572, www.orquideas.com
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Sunset Valley Orchids Contact: Fred Clarke 1255 Navel Pl Vista, CA 92083 760-639-6255, www.sunsetvalley.com	The Rowland Collection Contact: Pat & Butch 12446 S Georgian St Garden Grove, CA 92841 714-892-3502	