



# Southern California Orchid Species Society

[www.socalorchidspecies.com](http://www.socalorchidspecies.com)

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### 2010

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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 10

Placentia Library  
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia

October 2010

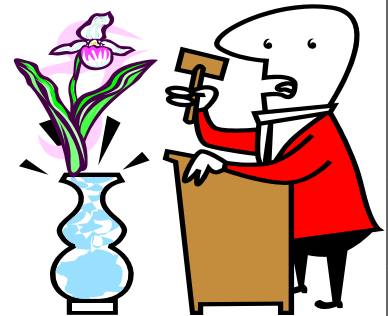
*October 10, 2010*

**AUCTION!  
AUCTION!  
AUCTION!**

Preview at 1 PM  
Auction starts at 2 PM

Placentia Library  
411 E. Chapman Ave., Placentia

This is the month for our fabulous annual auction! You'll find orchids, both species and hybrids, that you will not see anywhere else. Your purchases will enhance your orchid collection, and support the club. (Remember, this is our primary fundraiser, which supports our program of excellent speakers for the entire year).



If you have extra divisions, or if you have a plant that is healthy but might bloom and grow better in somebody else's environment, please consider donating to the auction. Even if you don't have plants to donate, **we encourage all members to bring food to share.** We need to keep our bidders happy and well-fed! If you are donating plants, you can bring them any time after 11 AM, as early as possible so that we can get them checked in before the auction. Contact Edie Gulrich, email [egulrich@att.net](mailto:egulrich@att.net) or phone 714-991-8661 for advance plant registration.

## Speaker's Choice

Our September speaker, Tom Biggart, selected the large, floriferous *Maxillaria fractiflexa* grown by Nick Braemer.

Nick grows this plant in a cool greenhouse, keeping the day temperature below 78 degrees and night temperature below 60 degrees when possible. The humidity is maintained at 80%. The plant sits in a cookie sheet containing 1/2 inch of RO water. It receives RO water and fertilizer between 150 and 200 ppm for watering twice a day.

*Maxillaria fractiflexa* is native to Ecuador, at altitudes ranging from around 5200 ft (between Baños and Puyo) to 7000 ft (near Quito) According to Charles Baker (cited in



*Maxillaria fractiflexa*

*Orchidwiz*), the plant can thrive in warmer than ideal temperatures with very high humidity and excellent air movement, but must have an opportunity to cool down at night. In its natural habitat, there is less rain and brighter sky in winter, for a larger diurnal temperature range, but there is still plenty of moisture.

For those of us living near the coast, many of the high-altitude Andean species can be grown outdoors. Still, we have to contend with lower-than-ideal humidity and moderately hard water. Nick has created an ideal cloud forest environment in his cool greenhouse.

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## From the Membership Corner

Thanks to our guests - Wilma Wilson, Steve Rogers, Marjorie and Karen Legel for joining us, we hope to see you again very soon. Welcome back to Kathy Byrne, we missed you and glad to have you back in the family.

Members, October 10th is our big auction! Please bring finger foods, snacks, friends and have a great day. Also, if you have any duplicate plants or something that you think someone else would enjoy, please bring it for the auction. Set up is at 11:00, preview at 1:00, auction starts at 2:00 PM.

*Eddie Gulrich, Membership Secretary*

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## President's Message

Greetings to all .

Our meeting was good, with guests , new members, and lots of incredible orchids, that's the way we like it. Our guest speaker was Tom Biggart who spoke on Ruplculous Laelias of Brazil. These orchids

grow in the dry areas of Brazil out among the rocky slopes and hills. They are interesting in the way they grow on rocks and between them, very little water is needed. They are small plants and very pretty.

Another thing is, Tom and his wife make the ceramic pots that they grow them in, wonderful little pots very special, perfect size. Tom, too bad you didn't bring more when you came, maybe next time. Now we have to find small pots elsewhere for those plants that were on the opportunity table. The plants are planted in rocks and

commercial building sand.

Saturday I went to the screening of 'The Judge, The Hunter, The Thief and the Black Orchid'. It was fun seeing alot of people and friends that we know in the film, Ed Wise , Peter Lin, Karen Muir, Dr Noriito Hasegawa, (all members of the SCOSS), Harold Koopowitz, and of course the stars of the documentary Fred Clark and the Black orchid. It was interesting seeing and learning about the hybridizing of the plants. How much time and effort that goes into this production plus this cross as any cross is as different as each person on this planet. They can only be duplicated as a clone, no challenge there . Far more interesting than cookie cutter plants to see what the parentage of the plants can produce , now that is exciting. We saw the production line of the cloning. It was unbelievable, the mass of plants unreal plus so

many plants being tossed out whether good or bad . They all look like "Star Wars" clones, nothing interesting,all alike.

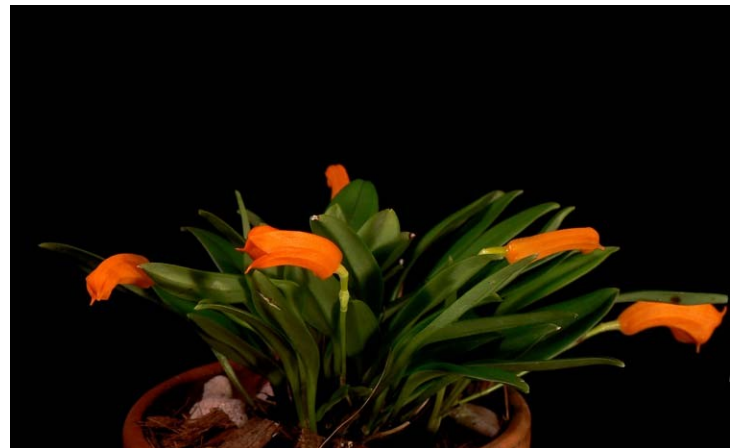
They had a little of the ' kovachii' Phrag ,as the Thief, plus Martin Motes as the Hunter, and both he and Andy Phillips say a lot of the romance and excitement has gone out of hunting new species now due to CITES. The movie was well done and worth the effort to go to Temecula , besides it was a beautiful day and we had a great Tia lunch. If you have a chance to see the film by all means DO.

Please don't forget the AUCTION at the next meeting and treats, and goodies for our guests and our members. AS ALWAYS BRING A FRIEND OR TWO.

*Barbara Olson, President*

## Editor's Potting Bench

The calendar says "Fall" but I think we all need a bit of convincing, after several days of triple-digit temperatures, even near the coast. Time will tell how well the cool-growing species in our collections managed in the heat. While in general, watering in the heat of the day is not beneficial to plants, and has the potential to cause damage due to droplets of water focusing sunlight, the brutal heat is probably worse. I run the misters for the mounted plants in the middle of the day, not so much to water them as to cool them, and also generate some evaporative cooling for the nearby plants. This is where clay pots have a definite benefit for the Masdevallias, Odontoglossums, and Pleurothallids. If plants are shaded (Oh, I love my Aluminet shade cloth!) the extra bit of evaporative cooling around the roots seems to help considerably. This little Masdevallia mendozae seems to have handled the heat stress just fine—no loss of flowers, even though it



**Masdevallia mendozae**

was outside through the worst of it. And there are several more newly-emerged inflorescences on the way.

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



## Editor's Potting Bench (From Page 3)

It should also be noted that it really IS fall, and the hours of intense heat are fewer than would be the case if we had these high temperatures in July. The nights have been reasonably cool—at my house, night temperature has been below 60 nearly all nights since mid-September, and some nights have gone as low as mid 50's. Start looking for those Cymbidium spikes—the large diurnal range that is characteristic of our southern California autumn is the trigger for many orchids.

This is a prime time of year to indulge one's orchid addiction. I made some acquisitions at Fascination of Orchids last weekend. (Andy and Ecuagenera got most of it, but there were some treasures from other vendors too.) This coming weekend is the show and sale at the San Diego Botanic Garden (aka "Quail Gardens"). Then, OUR AUCTION, where you will have a banquet of outstanding orchids to compete for... may the bidding be lively! When you spend lavishly at the auction, you're really "paying yourself" ... all of the proceeds will come back to you in excellent programs at our meetings for the next year. And of course, the following week is the Southland Show at the Huntington Library. Since you will be acquiring more orchids this month, this is an excellent time to find a few of those duplicate divisions, or other plants that you might want to give someone else a chance to grow, and donate them to the auction .

Since we won't have "Show and Tell" this month

due to the auction, be sure to check the website <http://socalorchidsociety.com> to see what's blooming. And send me your photos—I'm happy to show off my blooming species, but we want all want to see YOURS as well! Here are a few of mine just for a start.

Roberta Fox, Editor



*Laelia crispa*



*Eleanthus fractiflexus*



*Coelogyne mayeriana*



*Dendrobium prenticei*

## Calendar of Events

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

- **San Diego International Orchid Fair, 16th Annual Show and Sale\***  
October 1-3: 1-5 PM Friday, 9 AM-5 PM Saturday, 9 AM-4 PM Sunday  
San Diego Botanic Garden  
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas  
[www.sdbgarden.org](http://www.sdbgarden.org)
- **Southern California Orchid Species Society Auction\***  
October 10 1 PM (Preview), 2 PM Auction  
Placentia Library  
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia  
(That's US! Save extra divisions to donate, and make room for more orchids!)
- **Southland Orchid Show\***  
October 15-17; 12-4:30 PM Friday, 10:30 AM—4:30 PM Saturday and Sunday  
Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanic Gardens  
[www.orchidshow.org](http://www.orchidshow.org)
- **South Coast Orchid Society Auction**  
October 25 at 6:30 PM  
Whaley Park Clubhouse, 5620 E. Atherton, Long Beach
- **52nd Annual Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Fall Open House**  
November 6-7  
1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara  
[sboe@sborchid.com](mailto:sboe@sborchid.com)— 800-553-3387



Cattleya bicolor



Southern California  
Orchid Species Society

# ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION

Sunday, October 10, 2010

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

Preview at 1 PM  
Auction starts at 2 PM

Featuring  
**Species and Hybrids**

Including many plants not readily available from other sources

[www.socalorchidspecies.com](http://www.socalorchidspecies.com)

Affiliated with:  
American Orchid Society  
Orchid Digest  
Orchid Conservation Alliance

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, <a href="http://www.calorchid.com">www.calorchid.com</a>	Cal-West Tropical Supply Contact: Brad & Ryan Wicks 11614 Sterling Av Riverside, CA 92503 951-351-1880, <a href="http://www.calwesttropical.com">www.calwesttropical.com</a>	Casa de las Orquideas Contact: Loren Batchman 170 S Nardo Av Solana Bch, CA 92075 858-755-7572, <a href="http://www.orquideas.com">www.orquideas.com</a>
Orange County Farm Supply Contact: Chris Roy 1826 W Chapman Av Orange, CA 92868 714-978-6500, <a href="http://www.ocfarmssupply.com">www.ocfarmssupply.com</a>	Orchid Fever Contact: Aaron & Dave Thomas 10242 Culver Blvd Culver City, CA 90232 310-559-6599	Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 6961 Livingston Dr Huntington Bch, CA 92648 714-841-0442, <a href="http://www.orchidbasket.com">www.orchidbasket.com</a>
Mariposa Garden Contact: Ron Hill 6664 South St Lakewood, CA 90713 562-920-5588, <a href="http://www.mariposagarden.net">www.mariposagarden.net</a>	Paphanatics Contact: Norito Hasegawa 159 Monterey Rd Orange, CA 92866 714-639-1387	Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 1250 Orchid Dr Santa Barbara, CA 93111 800-553-3387, <a href="http://www.sborchid.com">www.sborchid.com</a>
Sunset Valley Orchids Contact: Fred Clarke 1255 Navel Pl Vista, CA 92083 760-639-6255, <a href="http://www.sunsetvalley.com">www.sunsetvalley.com</a>	The Rowland Collection Contact: Pat & Butch 12446 S Georgian St Garden Grove, CA 92841 714-892-3502	