



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

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Placentia Library
411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia

March 2011

March 13, 2011

Dorothy Goldberg
Orchids in Singapore and Bali

March speaker is our own Dorothy Goldberg. She will be sharing with us the orchids that she saw in Singapore and Bali.

Dorothy has been growing orchids for many years. Those who have visited her home in Laguna Beach have seen an orchid paradise. She got started with orchids when she was living and practicing law in Claremont. Her daughter, Natalie, had been working at a job that she hated, and Dorothy suggested a change. Natalie took her mother's wise advice, and found a position with Stewart's Orchids in San Gabriel. Orchids started following her home (we have all had that experience...) and Dorothy was hooked. Because the climate in the Inland Empire has wide extremes, she did her orchid-growing primarily in a greenhouse. By the time she moved to Laguna Beach, she already had a significant collection. She said that it took two truckloads to get the orchids moved. Two blocks from the ocean, many of them thrive outside, and Dorothy's yard is full of large, happy plants. There are some that still need a greenhouse, but there is certainly more expansion room in the open air. There is always room for

one more... Several years ago Dorothy was in Belize, and her orchid acquisitions from that trip have thrived. Many of them have been on the Show and Tell table as large specimens.

Singapore has a benign tropical climate, in a region that is rich with orchids. It will be the site of the World Orchid Conference this fall. The orchids, though, don't need to wait for a "special occasion", we get to see them now.



Orchid Garden in Singapore

Speaker's Choice

February speaker Peter Tobias selected the *Coelogyne cristata* grown by Nick Braemer as his "speaker's choice". Nick grows his plant in a cold greenhouse, with a low temperature of about 45 deg. F. and high of about 85 deg. F. This plant had at least three spikes (one was a casualty of the trip to the meeting). Nick purchased the plant from the Rowland Collection when we visited there last fall. (Doug Adams' *Coelogyne cristata*, purchased the same day, was also displayed on the Show and Tell table. Doug grows his outside, and the plant was grown outside at Pat Rowland's)

Coelogyne cristata is native to northern India and Nepal, and into the mountains of northern Thailand. It grows at an altitude of 5250-8530 ft. in moss-forests. The temperature extremes cited by Charles Baker (in *Orchidwiz*) are 83 deg. F to 15



Coelogyne cristata

deg F. Clearly heat is more of an issue than cold for this plant. Humidity in its native habitat ranges from 85% in summer to 60% in winter, with heavy rain in summer. Watering can be reduced somewhat in winter, but the plant should never go completely dry. In nature, even when there is no rain, there is fog and heavy dew. It should receive bright shade. In its native habitat, light is higher in winter because of less cloud cover.

From the Members Corner

Welcome to our two new members, Milton Inbody and Pascual Machin and our guest Dana Seelig. Dana, we hope to see you again very soon.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

Is this California??????? or.....the mid-west???? It's still so cold, who wants to water our poor orchids that are outside? 59 is a little low for the high of the day and they are predicting snow down to 1000ft behind Ventura !!! Will it ever get warm up again so those buds will become beautiful flowers????? Maybe Mother's day... It's worth the wait, however.

The flowers and countryside are beautiful in Brazil, Peter Tobias said he would go back again for any reason. His talk was very enjoyable and we got to see a wonderful mix of everything ! He brought along some lovely art work of orchids that was for sale, to help raise money for the Alliance, and of course the Orchid Conservation Alliance tee shirts which are fun to wear with the orchid logo and either a Cattleya or an Epidendrum ilense and the wording "preserving orchids in the wild", really cool-looking. A big

plus, they are 100% cotton and don't shrink, yeah!

It is disheartening to see how much land is being stripped of its vegetation, with the idea of using the land for some sort of project and then not using it and letting it stand fallow without the trees or anything growing there... How sad to destroy a habitat of all the many trees, insects, orchids, birds, and animals that live there, for nothing! This is what the Alliance is trying to prevent by buying land so all the natural old growth will continue to live, and be protected from the destruction that has been going on, so others may enjoy seeing all the beauty of a healthy ecosystem that will continue to thrive. This can't be done alone, that's why we have the Alliance project to help, many small donations become large ones when all are put together--"small becomes large". That makes it easy to help the Alliance with our small donations .They hire rangers to guard the properties and protect the

land from looters and the stealing of different orchid plants and other flora. We as a society have joined forces with them again. You can also join as a member, their trips sound very interesting.

Hope you all are able to go to the Santa Barbara Show and if you do, check out the vendors that have been so generous to help support our auction. Let them know how much you appreciate them and buy from them. Their plants are terrific. Let them know you are from the species society.

Don't miss our next meeting our own Dorothy Goldberg will be showing her pictures from Bali and Singapore. See you there and as always bring a friend and remember "Preserving orchids in the wild".

Barbara Olson, President

Editor's Potting Bench

One of my pet peeves is mislabeled orchid species plants. I'm not talking about trying to keep up with the taxonomic changes. People (hobbyists and vendors) aren't going to change tags until things settle down. But some vendor IDs are also not correct. In general, it isn't the vendor's fault – they may buy seedlings, and don't find out themselves until the plants bloom that they are something different than the way they were labeled. Plants don't need accurate tags (or any tags) to bloom. (The ones without tags seem to bloom best of all). But as a species aficionado, I do find the IDs interesting, and they also make it a lot easier to track down the cultural requirements of a plant. I have a very nice *Dendrochilum*, that I received labeled as "arachnites". Then, I saw a really neat *Dendrochilum* that Andy's Orchids had, with lacy, spidery flowers, that was labeled "*Dendrochilum arachnites*". I asked Andy about it, and he said that he did have a positive ID on

it. That actually made a lot more sense, since "arachnites" means "spider like" (think "arachnids") He had a number of *Dendrochilum* species in his display at the NHOS show, and I looked for one that was more like the one I had. *Dendrochilum javierii* looked a lot more like it, but not quite. So, until I find something more definitive, this plant is "*Dendrochilum* sp." The genus does seem to have a lot of tangled IDs. In my search for pictures, I came across a website dedicated to the genus, with lots of pictures and additional information, <http://www.dendrochilum.com/>. Trey Sanders, the owner/author of the website, seems to have extensive and accurate knowledge of *Dendrochilum*. This is definitely a site that you should add to your list of good orchid references.

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

Editor's Potting Bench (from Page 3)

After a very bright, dry, and sometimes warm January and early February, we're back into a more seasonal weather pattern. However, when I look closely at my orchids, I find lots of evidence of active growth beginning. Day length is one of the triggers for plant activity, and that is noticeably increasing. Some members of the *Cattleya* tribe are very picky about when they are potted, and so do be on the lookout for new roots. *Laelia anceps* and its close relatives are high on the list. For best response, they should be repotted, or mounted, BEFORE the new growth. Once those roots start to emerge, it is almost too late. This is one that you need to be ready to pounce on right away. I'm also seeing new roots on some others, like *Laelia* (now *Cattleya*) *purpurata*. Spring may not quite be here yet, but it is getting close – and with it, time to start potting. Those plants that you noticed last summer, climbing out of their pots? Take advantage of the flush of active new roots to get them established without a setback.

Roberta Fox, Editor



Dendrochilum sp. (Labeled *Ddc. arachnites*, but it isn't)



Dendrochilum arachnites (really)



Laelia anceps new roots

The time to mount this plant was about a month ago. Now, with the new root tips visible, it would be risky, since any handling can damage those new roots, preventing further growth. In a basket (or pot) it is vital that the plant be stabilized so that it cannot move and damage the new roots. The twist ties anchor the plant to the sides of the basket. In a pot, a rhizome clip can be used.

Calendar of Events

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

- **Pacific Orchid Exposition***
March 4-6
Fort Mason Center, San Francisco
www.orchidsanfrancisco.org
- **South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale***
March 5-6, 10 AM-5 PM (show on Sat. opens at 12 PM, sale at 10 AM)
Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Dr, Torrance
- **Santa Barbara International Orchid Show***
March 11-13
Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara
www.sborchidshow.com
- **Long Beach Amateurs Orchid Society Annual Auction***
March 14, 6 PM Preview, Auction starts 6:40 PM
St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall, 6201 E Willow St, Long Beach
- **San Diego County Orchid Society Spring Show***
March 25-27, Fri. 4–8 PM, Sat. 9 AM–6 PM, Sun. 10 AM–4 PM
Scottish Rite Center, 1805 Camino del Rio South, San Diego



Laelia anceps mounted in November

Plant was mounted as soon as the new growth started swelling at the base of the front pseudobulb. When the roots emerged they quickly attached to the mount.

- **Central Coast Orchid Show and Sale ***
April 2-3, Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 10-5
South County Regional Center, 80 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande
Information: www.fcos.org or 805-929-5749



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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 & 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>Ecuagenera Contact: Ivan Portilla PO Box 01011110 Cuenca, Ecuador www.ecuagenera.com</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.net</p>	<p>Norman's Orchids Contact: Norman Fang 11039 Monte Vista Ave. Montclair, CA 91763 909-627-9515, www.orchids.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 Floral Mixes and Supplies 10608 Floral Park Lane North Potomac, MD 20878 301-315-2344</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>
	<p>U.S. Orchid Supplies Contact: Ram Ramakrishnan 1621 S Rose Ave Oxnard, CA 93033 805-247-0086, www.saicoir.com</p>	