

Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

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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
Kraemer Memorial Park
Backs Community Building, Main Room
201 N. Bradford Ave., Placentia
(Chapman and Bradford, parking off Bradford)

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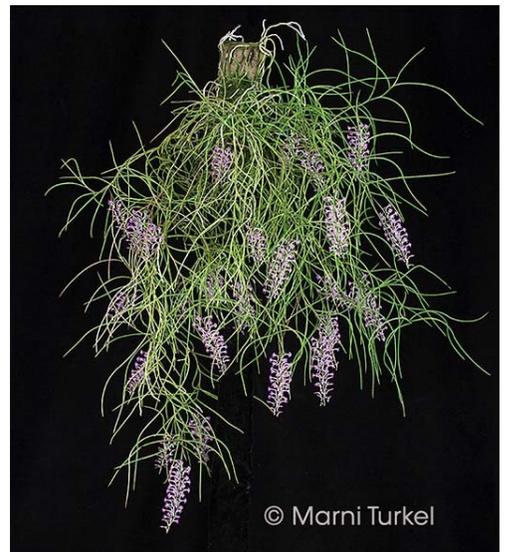
January 14, 2018

Marvelous Monopodials

Marni Turkel

Most of the orchids we see at shows and on show tables are sympodial where one growth finishes and a new one starts from the rhizome. This presentation will focus on those with a monopodial growth habit. Those where the plant grows upward from a single point. It adds leaves to the apex each year and the stem grows longer accordingly.

This talk will focus on the wonderful variety of monopodial genera of great interest to orchid growers. It includes miniatures as well as some rather large species, some well known and others not often seen. It will cover aspects of culture in general and individual species. You will see images of flowers up close as well as whole plants. There should



© Marni Turkel

be **Schoenorchis buddleiflora** something of interest to growers from all levels of experience.



© Marni Turkel

Marni Turkel (pronounced tur KELL) is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and has been growing orchids since 1980. She grows in four greenhouses in Santa Rosa with approximately 1250 sq ft of growing space. Her main interest is in miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into the collection as well. Marni has been a contributor to Orchids magazine with her series called 'Well Worth the Space' and 'Give It a Rest'. Her articles have been trans-

Angraecum lecomtei

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lated into Dutch, German, Portuguese and Swedish for international publication. Photographs of her plants have been featured in articles noted orchid publications including Orchids Magazine, Orchid Digest, Richardiana, The Orchid Review, and The Australian Orchid Review. For the last few years she has been sharing her photographs and knowledge on OrchidsForum.com.

Starting in 2009, Marni expanded her work with orchids to include propagation of orchids from seed and has set up a flasking lab of her own to take the process from start to finish and sell flasks of many of the orchids species in her collection. After working for over 43 years as a potter, she has retired from ceramics to pursue orchids full-time.

Speaker's Choice

December speaker Daniel Geiger selected the specimen *Isabelia (Neolauchea) pulchella*, grown by Scott McGregor as his Speaker's Choice. Like all of his orchids, Scott grows this outside, with RO water. Because of its rambling habit, this species needs to be grown mounted.

Isabelia pulchella comes from southern and south-eastern Brazil. It grows in cool, damp mountains at a range of elevations. The Baker culture sheet for this species (in [Orchidwiz](#)) indicates a temperature range of 105 deg. F down to 25 deg. F. That pretty much covers anything that it is likely to encounter in southern California! It was classified as *Neolauchea* until fairly recently.



Isabelia pulchella

From the Member's Corner

Members attending the December meeting enjoyed learning LOTS of information about Oberonias from former member Dan Geiger. You remember; the "King of Microscopic Orchids" ! It was nice to see him again along with his wife, Chris. We also had Linda Lu Lai and Brandon Tam as guests. Don't forget to renew your membership in January - there's a great schedule of speakers and meetings for the coming year. We hope all of you had a great holiday season and wish you a Happy New Year.

Thanks,
Holly Hillman

President's Message

A note from our new president...

"I am looking forward to working with the group. It will encourage me to become more knowledgeable about orchids and all that goes with it. I have a lot to learn."

Yolanda Brown, President



Laelia anceps f. veitchiana

Editor's Potting Bench

We welcome a very special speaker this month, Marni Turkel. A huge "thank you" is in order to Alex Allen for reaching out to her and making all of the arrangements.

Beyond our own meeting, the big event of January is the Orange County Orchid Society auction. There are always wonderful offerings, and you can indulge your orchid cravings during a part of the year where there are not a lot of opportunities to add to your collection.

The weather has finally settled into a somewhat more seasonal pattern as far as temperature goes, though rain still seems to be a "future promise". I do see signs of confusion from some of the orchids. Cymbidiums are spiking very late (since the night cool-down didn't even start to happen with any reliability until well into December.) I am seeing lots of spikes starting on the *Dendrobium speciosum*s, which seem to be already thinking "spring". I anticipate a spectacular season from them. I also expect that we will see a different mix of orchids at the spring shows, since bloom times are likely to be shifted for many of the outdoor-grown plants. Personally, I'm happy to see whatever flowers show themselves at any time that pleases them. With a lot of variety in my collection, there's always something blooming.

This has been a spectacular season for *Laelia anceps*. They're just about the hardiest, most forgiving orchids that I grow. They are even tougher than Cymbidiums—they take the same temperature extremes, even more sun, but don't need—or want—as much water. I have several of the *veitchiana* color form (nearly white or very pale *coerulea*) with *coerulea* lip. They're putting



Laelia anceps f. lineata

on a spectacular show. I also especially love the *lineata* form (also known by the cultivar name 'Disciplinata') It looks to me like someone brushed the petals with a paintbrush and pulled some of the color beyond the edges. *Laelia gouldiana* grows under the same conditions. It doesn't have the variety of color forms that *L. anceps* has, but has its own charm. Flowers are somewhat crystalline, glistening in strong sunlight. *Laelia autumnalis* is also in this group, and flowers have a somewhat pearlescent luster.

Pleurothallids tend to suffer when the humidity drops and temperatures soar. All I could do was water copiously. I am now seeing lots of new growth where some leaves got toasted. Re-

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Laelia gouldiana



Laelia autumnalis

Specklinia endotrachys is a sequential bloomer that seems to have tolerated the weather insults quite well. I never seem to have more than a couple of flowers a time, but with four or five spikes, at least one of them is in bloom frequently. It's a small flower that is best appreciated in a photograph.



Specklinia endotrachys

Dendrochilum cobbianum gives a huge number of flowers in a relatively small space, like much of the genus. Non-orchid people look at and say "That's an orchid???" but all one has to do is to look closely—the individual flowers have all the classic characteristics, no mystery there.

Restrepia condorensis is the first of my Restrepias to bloom. Some others will be coming along soon with the cooler temperatures and higher humidity.



Restrepia condorensis

Dendrochilum cobbianum



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

- **Orange County Orchid Society Annual Auction***
January 17, 2018; 6:30 PM Preview, 7 PM Auction begins
Yorba Linda Public Library Community Room (lower level), 18181 Imperial Hwy., Yorba Linda
Info: www.ocos.net, (714) 446-9283
- **Newport Harbor Orchid Society Orchid Expo and Sale**
February 9–11, 2018; Friday 10 AM–9 PM, Saturday 10 AM–7 PM, Sunday 11 AM–6 PM
Westminster Mall, Westminster (2nd level, near J.C. Penny)
Info: www.nhosinfo.org/orchidshow
- **Pacific Orchid Exposition Show and Sale***
February 23-25, 2018
Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Info: www.orchidsanfrancisco.org
- **Santa Barbara Orchid Show***
March 9-11, 2018; 9 AM–5 PM
Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara
Info: <https://sborchidshow.com/>
- **Long Beach Amateurs Annual Auction***
March 12, 2018; 6 PM Preview, 6:30 PM Auction begins
St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall, 6201 E. Willow St., Long Beach
Info: www.lbaos.com
- **San Diego Orchid Society Show and Sale***
March 23-25, 2018; Friday 3–7 PM, Saturday 9 AM–6 PM, Sunday 10 AM–4 PM
Scottish Rite Event Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego
Info: www.sdorchids.com
- **Cool Growing Orchid Society Annual Auction***
April 11, 2018; 6:30 PM registration and preview, 7 PM Auction
Garden Grove Masonic Lodge, 11270 Acacia Pkwy., Garden Grove
Info: www.coolorchids.org
- **South Bay Orchid Society Annual Auction**
April 20, 2018; 6:30 PM Preview, 7 PM Auction
South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes Peninsula
Info: www.southbayorchidsociety.com

Most of my orchids grow outside, but here's one "greenhouse baby" that is blooming particularly well this year. *Maxillaria richii* does like to grow a bit warm, and I have found that it also likes humidity. I think that another factor that has contributed to its increased vigor is my switch to RO water. Quite a few of the outdoor plants (especially, but not limited to, Pleurothallids) also have responded well to this change in their culture. I have managed to grow a lot of orchids with city water for a lot of years but this little change seems to have upped my game quite a bit.

Roberta Fox, Editor



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>Asbell Orchids Contact: Bob & Dan Asbell 805-550-5484</p>
<p>Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 805-967-1312, calorchid@cox.net www.calorchid.com</p>	<p>Ruben Colmenares Contact: Rco90808@gmail.com</p>
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<p>Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens Contact: Brandon Tam btam@huntington.org www.http://huntington.org</p>	<p>Royale Orchids Australia http://www.royaleorchids.com/</p>
<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 800-553-3387, sboc@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>