

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)

Volume 38 Issue 4

April 2015

April 12, 2015 George Hatfield has over twenty five years of experience in breeding and raising award quality Cymbidium orchids. He is the owner of Hatfield Orchids. His nursery is located in

Cymbidium Species and Asian Growers' Culture

George Hatfield

*Cymbidium
erythrostylum*



George Hatfield has over twenty five years of experience in breeding and raising award quality Cymbidium orchids. He is the owner of Hatfield Orchids. His nursery is located in Oxnard, near Ventura, and has an ideal climate for the growing of Cymbidiums. George is active in both the Cymbidium Society of America (CSA) and the American Orchid Society (AOS), as well as several Southern California regional organizations for orchids. He has published articles in the American Orchid Society Awards Quarterly and the Cymbidium Society of America CSA Journal. George is an orchid judge for both the CSA and AOS, and is currently the chairman of the Pacific South Judging Center of the AOS as well as chairman of the Santa Barbara judging region of the CSA.

In this talk, George will discuss some Cymbidium species, and share some ideas from Asian growers for meeting the challenge of helping these thrive. He will also be providing the plant table.

Cymbidium goeringii



© John Varigos

Speaker's Choice

March speaker Tim Culberson selected *Pleione formosana* 'Oriental Splendor', grown by Scott McGregor, as his Speaker's Choice. Scott grows this plant outdoors in a shaded area, in a terrestrial mix. The critical cultural practice is to let the plant go completely dry for the winter. It needs to be cool, as well as dry. When it starts to put out growth in the early spring, watering can resume. Some *Pleione* species require a very severe chill during the winter, but our normal outdoor winter temperature is sufficient for this one.

According to Charles Baker (in [Orchidwiz](#)), *Pleione formosana* originates in Eastern China to Taiwan where it grows in moss on sunny rocks and fallen logs or on tree



Pleione formosana



trunks in moist, foggy places at 4920-6560 ft. (1500-2000 m). In its natural habitat it may encounter night temperatures near, or even slightly below, freezing but it is not necessary to get this cold for blooming. This is the warmest-growing species of the genus.

From the Member's Corner

There was one guest at our March meeting, Marshall's daughter Linda. Glad to see her and hope to see her again very soon. Unfortunately, I will not be at the April meeting, due to a prior commitment; however, the new rosters will be available, so please go to the membership table and please sign for your roster. Remember, our meeting is back to our regular location at the Backs Community Building in Kraemer Memorial Park.

Looking forward to seeing you at the May meeting.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

Hello everyone,

Spring is here! I don't know about you, but this time of year gets me excited. I have Dendrobium, Cymbidium, Cattleya to name just a few either in bloom or in spike. I am hoping that my Stelis superbiens will be blooming for this month's meeting. On the other hand, my Catase-tums still show no signs of life.

I would like to thank our April speaker, Tim Culbertson. Tim enlightened us on how easy it is to grow Sarcocylus.

At our last board meeting, we discussed ways to attract new members. We will discuss further as we work out the details. Please let us know if you have any ideas.

Our April meeting returns to the regular location on Bradford Ave. at Kraemer Memorial Park, Backs Building. See you there!

Darrell Lovell

Editor's Potting Bench

It is not too soon to mark your calendar for Orchid Digest Speakers' Day on June 13. This is always a wonderful event, an opportunity to spend a day and evening wallowing in orchids. You can come early, and also spend some time exploring the Huntington gardens and galleries. You can read about the excellent line-up of speakers in the notice next to this column. There will also be some of our favorite vendors, and no doubt one or more from out of the area that we do not see often. Space is limited, so register soon. (The "at the door" price only applies if there is space available. Don't take a chance on being disappointed!)

I am starting to see some action from the Catasetinae. It would be very convenient if all of them were ready to start receiving water at the same time. But that doesn't happen. They develop at different rates, and over a period of a month or two. You also can't go by a specific measurement of the new growth, since a small plant will not have a growth as large as a large plant when it is ready. What I look for is the spreading of the leaves—when they first emerge, they are rolled up tight. Then, they start to spread as they grow. Fred Clarke pointed out that the time where rot is the biggest danger is when the leaves are still fairly tight, but have a hole at the top of the growth. Then, water falling on the plant may get trapped and cause the growth to rot. Once they have spread far enough so that water falling on them can drain away, you can begin to water if the visible (above the surface) roots are a couple of inches at least. Once it is ready, when the watering begins, it grows so fast that you can almost watch it. Then, it's time to get out the fertilizer, too. With growth that rapid, it needs plenty of nutrients for the same reason that a tomato plant does—rapid constructing of cells requires the chemical building blocks. As each plant reaches the "water me" stage, I just move it from the dry end of the greenhouse to where the water will hit it.

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

Please mark your calendars and save the date:
Saturday, June 13, 2015.

Orchid Digest Speakers' Day:

Orchid Potpourri

Ahmanson Classroom in the Botanical Center
at the
Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical
Gardens, San Marino, CA

12:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

Expert Lectures-Orchid Displays-Orchid Sales-
Silent Auction-AOS Judging-Dinner

Scheduled Speakers:

Steven Beckendorf—

"Searching for Orchids in Southeastern Peru"

Marc Hachadourian—

"Orchid Species You Should Not Try to Grow!"

Harold Koopowitz and Steven Hampson—

"Madagascar: Leaping Lemurs and Orchids"

Peter Lin—

"Trending Phalaenopsis Novelty Hybridizing"

Distinguished Orchid Digest Lecture:

Carol Woodin, "An Artist on the Orchid Trail"

Tickets:

\$65 (\$80 at door) for afternoon seminars, wine and
cheese happy hour, dinner and evening entertain-
ment.

Reservations available online at
www.orchiddigest.org

or contact Simone Friend at Orchidsimonef@aol.com or
call (562) 431-1247. When contacting by e-mail, please
include phone number, e-mail address and mailing
address.

There is limited space, so don't wait to buy your ticket.

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

My 15' *Sobralia caloglossa* is blooming again. It blooms about three times a year, and since the flowers open sequentially, it is in bloom for four to six weeks each time. Do the math—it's in bloom about 1/3 of the year. It is, of course, far too large to move at all. You have seen the photos before, so I'll use the space for some other things this time around.

There are quite a few large-flowered members of the *Cattleya* tribe that grow outside with no problem. I see lots of fattening sheaths on the *Laelia purpuratas*, so in a month or two those will be dominating. Right now, I have *Cattleya schroederae*, with its 6-7" flowers, delicate pink with a bright yellow throat, that reminds me of an egg yolk. It seems a bit weak and floppy, but the petals actually do have quite a bit of substance, and last two or three weeks. It could surprise me and hold until the meeting but I doubt it, so I share it here.



Cattleya schroederae

Vanda tricolor is, for me, the queen of the cool-growing vandas. I have had this plant for about 15 years, from the early days of my orchid growing, and it has forgiven many mistakes, has lived through some very cold winters. With less severe conditions, it would be more likely to keep its lower leaves, and would no doubt produce even more spikes (usually I get two per year, occasionally three) but it is a trouper. There are two color forms, the more common form is, I think, now correctly called *Vanda suavis*. I am not sure whether that epithet actually applies to both forms or not. This one,

with more brown, and off-white rather than pure white background, is less common.



Vanda tricolor

The small flowers on small plants are, I think better appreciated in photos than in person because it is hard to get close enough on the show-and-tell table. And those need to be checked out often, or it is possible to miss their blooms entirely. When I was at Andy's Orchids last weekend, I noticed several blooming *Dryadella zebrina* for sale, with their cute, 1/4" flowers. I bought one at last year's Speakers Day, and realized that I should take a look at mine. Indeed, there were several buds just getting ready to open. These can stay in bloom for several



Dryadella zebrina

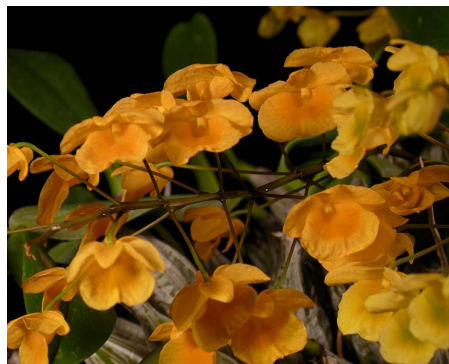
Calendar of Events * See flyer at www.socalorchidspecies.com, select the Events link

- **Spring Garden Show**
April 23-26, 2015
South Coast Plaza, 3333 Bear St., Costa Mesa
Info: www.springgardenshow.com
- **Orange County Orchid Society Orchid Mounting and Potting Workshop***
April 15, 2015; Orchid judging 7 PM, Orchid Workshop 7 30 PM
Yorba Linda Public Library Community Room, Lower Level, 18181 Imperial Hwy, Yorba Linda
Info: Nohline L'Ecuyer orchids @nohline.com 714-491-6660
- **Palomar Orchid Society Annual Auction***
May 2, 2015: Preview at 10 AM, Auction begins 11:00 AM
The Lodge (Pavilion), 1105 La Bonita Dr, Lake San Marcos
Info: www.palomarorchid.org
- **San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Annual Auction***
May 21, 2015; Preview at 6 PM, Auction begins 7:00 PM
Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
- **Orchid Digest Speakers Day**
June 13, 2015
Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, San Marino
Info and ticket purchase: www.orchiddigest.org
- **Cal Orchid's Summer Hummer**
July 10-11, 2015 (Friday and Saturday)
1251 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
Info: www.calorchid.com
- **Fascination of Orchids International Show and Sale***
September 26-27, 2015, 10 AM–5 PM
South Coast Plaza Village, 1631 W Sunflower, Santa Ana (Corner of Sunflower and Bear)
Info: www.ocorchidshow.com

months, popping out new flowers.
It's a cutie.

Room for just one more... the flowers of *Dendrobium lindleyi* don't last very long, but they look like pure sunshine and put on a lovely show for about two weeks. The flowers open light greenish-yellow, then develop more orange as they age. To get these to bloom, it is necessary to keep them quite dry during the winter. Cold and dry is the formula.

Roberta Fox, Editor



Dendrobium lindleyi

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 760-436-4235, info@andysorchids.com www.andysorchids.com</p>	<p>Asbell Orchids Contact: Bob & Dan Asbell 805-550-5484</p>	<p>Blossom Supplies Contact: Gordon Hong 626-975-5293, blossomplanting@aol.com www.blossomproducts.com</p>
<p>Calavo Gardens Orchids Contact: Ben & Suzy Machado 619-660-9810, BMACH16814@aol.com</p>	<p>Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 805-967-1312, calorcid@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>Estate of Patricia Rowland Contact: Theodore Johnson (714) 979-5887,</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>Granite Hills Orchids Contact: Tom Biggart (619) 441-9874, tombiggart@mac.com www.granitehillspotteryandorchids.com</p>	<p>Green Thumb Nursery Contact: Jason Moine 949-837-3040, www.greenthumb.com</p>	<p>Hatfield Orchids Contact: George Hatfield 805-901-0340, www.hatfieldorchids.com</p>
<p>Lico Orchids Contact: Lisa Humphries & Nico Goossens 760-942-4143, licoorchid@aol.com</p>	<p>Mariposa Garden Contact: Ron Hill 562-920-5588, www.mariposagarden.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>OrchidWiz 720-524-3774 support@orchidwiz.com www.orchidwiz.com</p>
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<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>Tuyet's Orchids Contact: Tiep Nguyen</p>