

Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

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Newsletter

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roberta@orchidcentral.net

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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 39 Issue 1

January 2016

January 10, 2016

African Orchids

Janet Plested

Here is how Janet describes her "orchid life":

"I started growing orchids in 1978 when my Mom took me to Orchids Ltd., in Carson. (Ed.: Remember Jimi Fox?) I fell in love with Paph sukhakulii and just had to have it. To make the story short, the orchid bug hit hard and fast. My collection of orchids built up fast. I was so keen I read Orchid catalogs from all over the world and the Encyclopedia by A.D. Hawkes became my bedside reading material.

In the early 80's I worked full time during the week and then at the weekends worked 16-20 hours at Stewart's Orchids at the Westside Branch, however working with the orchids was never a "job" but always a pleasure. I entered the world of judging and became a clerk for the AOS.

In 1986 I went to Australia and New Zealand on holiday. I went to "Orchids Australia 86" in Adelaide and I met my future husband (British). In 1987 Ian and I decided we would start up Plested Orchids in England and we have never looked back. Our honeymoon consisted of jungle trekking through the Thai jungle and finding many orchids. Every holiday since then has been spent in the jungles hunting for orchids where we photograph them, take water and



Podangis dactyloceras

See: Janet Plested, Page 3

Speaker's Choice

December speaker Fred Clarke selected *Coelogyne mooreana*, grown by Scott McGregor, as his speaker's choice. Scott grows all of his orchids outside, near the coast in San Juan Capistrano.

This species is native to Vietnam. It grows at elevations from 3940-4270 ft (1200-1300 m) in the Lang Bien Mountains near Dalat. It clearly tolerates our cool winter

nights. It grows best mounted or in a basket with free-draining media.

Scott also brought in a unique and charming little orchid, *Isabella virginalis*. The editor has the prerogative to modify the rules for this column a bit, so this is featured as "Editor's Choice". The flowers are only about 1/4" across, and it is easy to miss them because they are white, and emerge from a sheath of light-colored netting. But they bloom in a flush that is dramatic if one looks closely. The sheaths almost look like lace. This species is native to southern Brazil, growing in the Organ Mountains near Rio de Janeiro. They also grow farther inland, in the mountains of Minas Gerais, and the range extends into Paraguay and northern Argentina.



*Coelogyne
mooreana*



*Isabella
virginalis*



From the Member's Corner

We had a guest at our last meeting - Tim Garlow, welcome and hope you'll join us on a permanent basis. Just a quick word to say thank you to our outgoing Board for a great job well done. A big welcome to our incoming Board and look forward to another great year. Happy Holidays to one and all.

A reminder—if you want snacks at the meeting, please contribute. The Society supplies the drinks but food is what people bring to share.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

Everyone has a different thought on how to keep their orchids alive in all our varied seasons. Some of it is luck. Others plan everything out replicating precise microclimates, spending a lot of time and money, yet still admit to losing plants. There has been nothing typical or consistent about our weather the last several years. I planned to be outside this week, however the wind was blowing 20 + mph so my outdoor time is going on hold. The following are some thoughts for this time of year.

- People will tell you to keep your plants dry, protect from the rain, others say to take advantage of the rain to flush salts out of your plants/pots. I definitely think it is time to cut back on water and fertilizer. As the weather cools most orchids will stay in a semi-dormant growth state. Use this wet weather to flush roots heavily encrusted with excess minerals (salts) as this condition prevents absorption of needed minerals and may cause deficiencies or even excess toxic levels during dryer conditions. This works better if your orchids are in a well draining mix. The wind can over dry your plants. Water on warm days with no rain forecasted. It is also a good time to cut back on fertilizer.
- Be on the lookout for your Winter/Spring blooming orchids they should be ready to set spikes.
- When you see your plants pushing new roots, this may be an opportunity to do some repotting. Re-

pot when the roots are less than a ½" long.

- Keep warm growing orchids, those that want to be grown in a glass house - phalaenopsis, papilionopodiums, tolumnias, most vandas inside when temperatures drop below 45°F to 50°F.
- Warm growing orchids native to Australia and Mexico, dendrobiums (ie. kingianum like a dry rest to bloom) and cattleyas, for example, have survived with temperatures down into the low 30°F where I live in Orange.
- Cold loving orchids will not take freezing temperatures and definitely need protection. They want to be cool all year and generally don't like temperature extremes. Some of these plants include odontoglossums, miltonias, pleurothallids, masdevallias, draculas. They will thrive in cool weather down to 50ish and respond by initiating growth so continue to water and fertilize them during this period. Take this opportunity to divide or repot them during their winter growth period to encourage new growth and avoid the stress of repotting during the warm season.

Surprise us with your growing secrets and blooming plants in January.

Dana Seelig, President

Janet Plested, from Page 1

soil samples to help find their ideal living conditions. Every jungle is abound with beautiful and exciting flora and fauna.

As Plested Orchids, England we specialized in Africans, Dendrobiums and Paphiopedilums but we also grew a very wide range of other orchids. We have exhibited and sold orchids at many shows, both in the UK and the US. I became an orchid judge for the Royal Horticultural Society in 1997."

Janet now lives in the San Luis Obispo area.

Editor's Potting Bench

It is such a treat to go out on a frosty morning, and be greeted by *Laelia anceps* blooming in riotous profusion. I had really expected them sooner because spikes developed so early, but they just kept getting longer for several months. But now, each day brings more opening and the individual flowers do seem to be lasting longer in the chill. I have also noticed that the flowers on the larger plants last longer—more energy, I'm sure. At any rate, they are putting on a terrific show. The long summer that extended well into fall, and the erratic weather more typical of the season has certainly shifted bloom times around (some earlier and some later than usual) but does not seem to have suppressed much of anything. I'll share a few of the *L. anceps* to show a bit

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

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

of the variety in this wonderful species. What comes to meetings depends not only on which ones are blooming well at a given moment, but also on portability. Some of the most spectacular ones just have to be enjoyed where they grow.

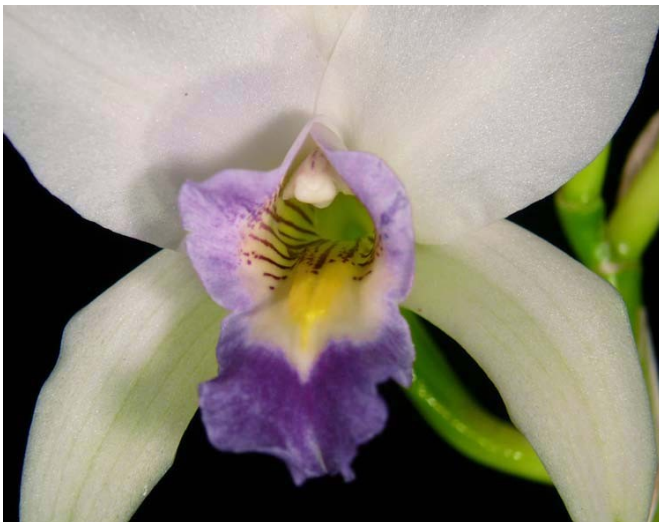


L. anceps f. *lineata*
'Disciplinata' has spectacular markings

L. anceps 'Blumen Insel' x 'Irwin's' - just nice!



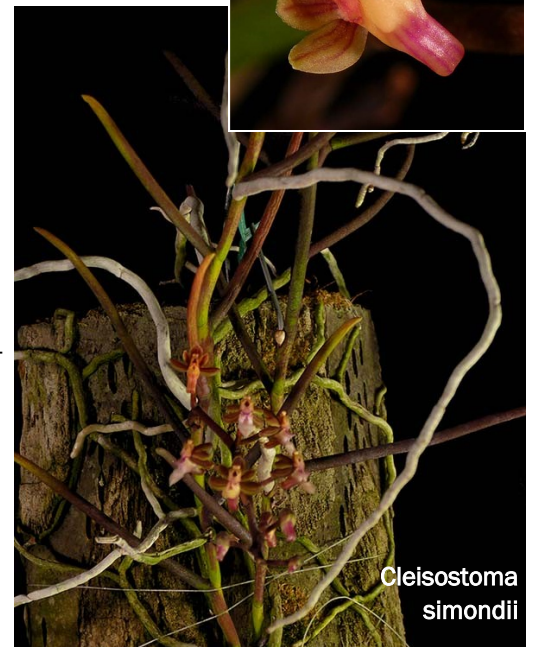
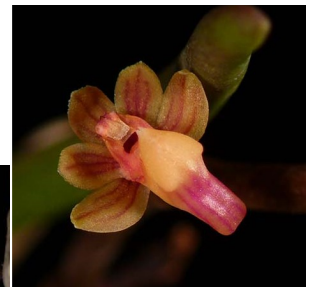
L. anceps f. *alba*—the purest white



L. anceps 'Elizabeth's Eyes' x 'Neptune' - if you guessed "coerulea" you would be very right!

Some Maxillarias are starting to bloom. This one may stay in bloom for the meeting, but in case it doesn't, *Max. ubatubabana* is pretty spectacular at the moment. It grows outside easily. It resembles *Max. picta*, and grows under the same conditions. It does prefer to be potted (in small bark), unlike many of the Maxillarias that prefer baskets or mounts.

Also in bloom is *Cleisostoma simondii*, a Vanda-



Cleisostoma simondii

See: Editor's Potting Bench, Page 5

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

- **Orange County Orchid Society Annual Auction***

January 20, 2016; 6:30 PM Preview, 7 PM auction begins

Yorba Linda Public Library Community Room, lower level, 18181 Imperial Highway, Yorba Linda

Info: Edie Gulrich 714-991-8661 egulrich@att.net or Susan Scheffler 714-777-9553, chefinyl@gmail.com

- **Newport Harbor Orchid Society Orchid Expo**

February 12-14, 2016; Friday 10-9, Saturday 10-7, Sunday 10-6

Westminster Mall

Info: www.nhosinfo.org

- **Pacific Orchid Exposition**

February 26-28, 2015; Friday and Saturday 9-6, Sunday 10-5

Fort Mason Center's Festival Pavilion, San Francisco

Info: <http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/poe.html>

- **Santa Barbara International Orchid Show**

March 4-6, 2016

Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara

Info: www.sborchidshow.com

- **San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale**

March 11-13, 2016; Friday 3-7, Saturday 9-6, Sunday 10-4

Scottish Rite Events Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego

Info: www.sdorchids.com or (916) 543-9078

- **Palomar Orchid Society Orchid Sale and Auction**

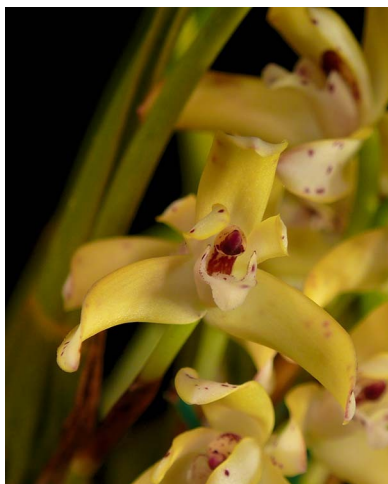
April 30, 2016; Sale and preview 9:30-11, Auction 11-3

The Pavilion at Lake San Marcos, 1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos

Info: www.palomarorchid.org

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 4

ceous species with a 1/4" flower that grows freely and seems to have no problem with the cold nights. This was a Santa Barbara Orchid Estate \$7.50 special. The mount really just holds the plant to make it easier to hang but the roots and new growth ramble, and most of the roots don't bother to adhere to it.



Max. ubatubana

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 & Harry Phillips 760-436-4235, info@andysorchids.com www.andysorchids.com</p>	<p>Aroma Orchids of Rowland Heights Contact: Michelle Liu 626-839-3888 aromaorchids@gmail.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>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>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>Hatfield Orchids Contact: George Hatfield 805-901-0340, www.hatfieldorchids.com</p>	<p>Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens Contact: Brandon Tam btam@huntington.org www.http://huntington.org</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 & Gardens Contact: Susan Hamilton orchidsandgardens@sbcglobal.net</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>	<p>Orquideas Katia Contact: Gustavo Aguirre orquideaskatia@gmail.com</p>	<p>Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 714-841-0442, www.orchidbasket.com</p>
<p>Phrao Orchids Nursery Contact: Katai phraoorchidsnursery@gmail.com www.facebook.com/Nursery.at.Phrao</p>	<p>Rainforest Flora Contact: Jerry Robinson 310-370-8044 jr@rainforestflora.com www.rainforestflora.com</p>	<p>rePotme.com Orchid Mixes and Supplies 301-315-2344, customer_service@repotme.com www.repotme.com</p>
<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 800-553-3387, sboc@sborchid.com www.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>	<p>The Orchid Place Contact: Nghia Le cuheo1@netscape.net</p>	<p>Wise Orchids Contact: Ed Wise 714-524-1730;orchides@pacbell.net</p>