



# Southern California Orchid Species Society

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

Kraemer Memorial Park

Backs Community Building, Main Room

201 N. Bradford Ave., Placentia

(Chapman and Bradford, parking off Bradford)

Volume 39 Issue 5

May 2016

***May 8, 2016***

## Meeting Location Change for May

**Whitten Community Center, 900 S. Melrose St., Placentia**

East side of Melrose just south of Orangethorpe

## Round Table Discussion

Join us for a Round Table where you can bring your problem plants. We will have an open discussion about culture, how to grow a plant that someone else is having trouble growing. All of us have problem plants, and at the same time we also have plants we are extremely successful with. This is an opportunity for all of us to learn from each other.

Bring 1 to 3 problem plants, they will be visually checked for insects and signs of virus. Plants will be placed in the center of the room. When we start, plants will then be randomly selected. The grower will then be asked to take a minute or two to describe their growing area and how they water/fertilize, etc. their plant. Members and guests will be asked to describe how they have successfully grown the same plant. This is intended to be an educational fun afternoon where everyone can learn and grow in our orchid knowledge.

The meeting will be organized as follows:

Everyone who brings an orchid will be given a ticket, place your name on half of the ticket and place it in your plant. This is to ensure that at least one plant is discussed from individuals bringing orchids. We will go through all the tickets for at least one plant.

You are invited to bring additional plants, these will receive a second set of tickets. We will do our best to get through all the remaining plants.

Some plants may give the visual impression of a virus or disease. These plants may be isolated or placed in plastic bags.

Bring a note pad to take names and notes on other growers you may want to follow-up with after the meeting.

Join us for our hands-on Orchid Culture meeting We will have Show and Tell, so bring your blooming plants too!

## Speaker's Choice

April speaker Phyllis Prestia selected *Jumellea arachnantha*, grown by Roberta Fox, as her Speaker's Choice plant. The pristine white flower of this Angraecoid caught her attention. She is particularly fond of this group of orchids, and grows many. It also nicely fit the topic of her talk, since this species is a Madagascan native. Roberta grows this plant in the greenhouse, shady and very humid. *Jumelleas* can be a little tricky—they seem to be very susceptible to scale infestation. A little bit granular Safari in the pot once or twice a year seems to help keep that under control. (Disclaimer: This is simply an empirical observation, no advice implied)



Along with Madagascar, *Jumellea arachnantha* is native to the nearby Grand Comoro Island. It occurs at elevations of 4000-

6000 ft (1220-1830 m) according to Charles Baker in [Orchidwiz](#). This would imply that it could grow somewhat cooler, and probably could grow outside very near the coast. Humidity is important, and the greenhouse does offer that advantage even if it is not so necessary for temperature. Like essentially all the Angraecoids, it has a spur, or nectary, just barely visible in the photos. It is fragrant at night, so is no doubt pollinated by a moth.



*Jumellea arachnantha*

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## From the Member's Corner

We had one guest, Carmen Brumell, mother of Jenifer Chungafung, visiting from Ottawa, Canada, so glad you visited us and have a great visit with your family. A returning member, Gisela Ferolito, happy to have you back. Erika Jelovsek has a change of address. If you need her new cone, contact me. A very big thank you to Holly Hillman and Irma Hughes who held down the table for me in my absence. Thank you to everyone for attending the meeting. See you in May.

REMEMBER THE TEMPORARY MEETING LOCATION, Whitten Community Center on Melrose!

Thank you,  
*Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary*

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## President's Message

May is a challenging month for the Society Meeting because it occurs on Mothers' Day. I would like to encourage everyone to come out to our meeting; it should be very educational and interactive.

I don't know about you but I hate the Santa Ana winds, even more so because I am an outside orchid grower. In most of our yards we have areas that are in the sun or shade. If we are lucky we have areas that are bright or a mottled sunshade area, perfect for Orchids. The challenge comes when we feel we have created the perfect environment for our prized orchids, then the Santa Ana winds blow. In my yard plants up to 5-gallon size pots are thrown off the benches to the ground with the winds. My recollection is that the Santa Ana winds had a season. It now seems to me they come every few weeks or months throughout the year. So is the problem the wind or the lack of humidity? I know there is wind in the rain forests, but I think the real challenge for us is the lack of humidity. This dry wind is what decimates my plants. A fellow orchid grower of ours has reported to me that he goes outside at 2:00 AM to water when the winds are blowing,

now that's dedication.

There is an interesting Article titled "Orchids Outdoors in Southern California" it is in the ASO archive written by Susan M. Stephenson Vol. 56, #3 March 1987. Susan does a great job of explaining how to adapt your growing area, planting medium, and pots to deal with changing microclimates in Los Angeles and at the base of the Hollywood Hills.

So the thing about orchids is when we lose one plant it drives us crazy. On the other hand, when we have orchids that survive and thrive our confidence improves and we are willing to try different species. Perhaps we need to realize that Orchids have been on the earth for maybe 85,000,000 years, and they have some ability to survive even if our care is not perfect. Join us for our May meeting where you can share your secrets to growing prized orchids!

Hope to see you Mother's Day!

*Dana Seelig, President*

## Editor's Potting Bench

Spring show season is pretty much over, but several of our favorite nurseries have open houses scheduled in the next few months. Check the Calendar of Events for the upcoming activities. Also, Orchid Digest Speakers Day is day to immerse yourself in orchids. The speaker lineup is excellent, and the after-dinner program will be extraordinary. If you haven't seen one of James Comestock's 3-D presentations, prepare to be amazed.



Late spring brings a collection of miscellaneous orchids blooming. It was a treat to have two species of Leptotes blooming at the same time, Leptotes bicolor and Leptotes pohlitinocoi. These small Brazilian members of the Cattleya tribe grow and bloom under the

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## Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

same conditions outside in fairly bright sun. While you might get small plants in pots, I have found that they grow much better mounted, with little or no moss.

Now that the Australian Dendrobiums have pretty much finished, another group of hardy Australians is just coming into bloom. *Sarcochilus hartmannii* is making a nice display, and *Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii* is right behind. *Sarco. hartmannii* is mostly white with a bit of red surrounding the column, *Sarco. fitzgeraldii* has much more variation in the amount and shade of red. The ones with lots of red, of course, have been used extensively in hybridizing. The downside of *Sarcochilus* is that the flowers tend to not last much

*Sarco. fitzgeraldii*



*Sarco. fitzgeraldii*



*Sarco. hartmannii*



more than a week or two, dropping when they still look fresh.

*Odontoglossum spectatissimum* lives up to its name, and has the advantage of rather long-lasting flowers, a characteristic of quite a few of the *Oncidiinae*. *Oncidium leucochilum* has an intriguing combination of

colors and intricate form, and is also quite long-lasting.

*Arpophyllum giganteum* is also putting on a show. And a hum-

*Odontoglossum spectatissimum*



*Oncidium leucochilum*



mingbird is nesting above my hanging *Cattleyas*, having re-worked last year's nest. I am hoping that they get together. Two beautiful jewels.

Roberta Fox, Editor

Saturday, June 4, 2016

Fourteenth Orchid Digest Speakers Day:

*Crazy About Catts*

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:

Fred Clarke: "Modern Splashed and Spotted *Cattleyas* and How To Grow Them"

Keith Davis—"Superior Culture for *Cattleyas*"

Munekazu Ejiri—"New *Cattleyas* from the Far East"

Francisco Miranda—"The Genus *Cattleya* in Brazil - Species and Groups"

Evening Presentation:

James Comstock—"Cattleyas in 3-D"

Tickets: \$65 (\$80 at door) for afternoon seminars, wine and cheese happy hour, dinner and evening entertainment.

Reservations online at [www.orchiddigest.org](http://www.orchiddigest.org)

or contact Simone Friend at [Orchidsimonef@aol.com](mailto:Orchidsimonef@aol.com) or call (562) 431-1247. When contacting by e-mail, please include phone number, e-mail address and mailing address. Space is limited so don't wait to buy your ticket.

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

- **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](http://www.palomarorchid.org)
- **Casa de las Orquideas Annual Seedling Sale**  
May 14, 2016 9 AM—6 PM  
170 S. Nardo Ave, Solana Beach  
Info: [casa@orquideas.com](mailto:casa@orquideas.com) or 858-755-7572
  - Over 50% off select 3" and 6" Cymbidiums
- **San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Annual Auction**  
May 19, 2016; Preview 6 PM, Auction begins 7 PM  
Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
- **Orchid Digest Speakers Day**  
June 4, 2016  
See Flier on Page 4 for detailed information
- **Sunset Valley Orchids Annual Open House**  
June 18, 2016 9 AM—4 PM  
1255 Navel Pl, Vista  
Info: [www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com) or 760-310-0778
  - Fantastic discounts on all stock;
  - Plant raffles, fun and food. Free authentic street tacos 11 AM—2 PM
- **Cal Orchid's Summer Hummer**  
June 8—10, 2016 9 AM—5 PM  
1251 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara  
Info: [www.calorchid.com](http://www.calorchid.com) or 805-967-1312
  - Neofinetia falcata (Fukiran) show and judging  
June 9, 10 AM—3 PM
- **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Summer Open House**  
June 8-10, 2016; Friday and Saturday 8 AM—5 PM, Sunday 9AM—4 PM  
1250 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara  
Info: [sboe@sborchid.com](mailto:sboe@sborchid.com) or 800-553-3387



Arpophyllum giganteum and friend.

**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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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>