

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 (Effective July 2017)

Backs Community Building, Main Room

201 N. Bradford Ave., Placentia

(Chapman and Bradford, parking off Bradford)

Volume 40 Issue 7

July 2017

MEETING LOCATION REMINDER: *We return to the*
Backs Building, Main Room, Kraemer Memorial Park
201 N. Bradford Ave, Placentia
Map on Page 5

June 9, 2017

Orchid Viruses—Introduction and Practical Aspects of Virus Testing

Dr. Kay Klausing

Kay Klausing was born in Germany and didn't start growing orchids until he was in college. The University of Konstanz where he got his Masters and PhD in Molecular Genetics had a lone *Dendrobium kingianum* specimen covering 2 huge baskets that had developed thousands of keikis due to being kept too warm. The gardener gave him a few keikis. He got hooked on orchids and after a few years most of his friends had *D. kingianums* (and he still has a division of that plant). He moved to the US in 1990 to do his postdoctoral work at UCSD and gave his collection to his dad who also got infected with the dreaded orchid virus (to his mom's dismay). One of the first things he bought in the US (before he even owned car) was an orchid at an orchid show by the Palomar Orchid Society. Since then his orchid collection has swelled to about 800 plants with an emphasis on the *Cattleya* alliance – almost exclusively species. He grows plants in three greenhouses (cool, intermediate and warm) and one outdoor area (rupicolous *Laelias*).

Kay was a member of the German Orchid Society for many years and is a long-term member of the AOS and serves on the board of their conservation committee. He is a member of the San Diego County Orchid Society which he now serves as 1st VP.

During his Masters and PhD work, he used a virus as a model system for replication and, as such, has had a long interest in and fascination with viruses. In the presentation he will give a brief introduction to orchid viruses, but will focus mainly on the practical aspects from the point of growing orchids. He will give a live demo on how to perform tests, share the test results for his collection and provide tips on how to prevent the spread of virus in a collection."

Host's Choice

We didn't have a speaker, so the selection of the "choice" plant fell to our gracious host, Scott McGregor. He is drawn to miniature orchids—that's how he gets so many lovely ones into his compact growing area. Scott selected *Oncidium pumilum*, brought by Roberta Fox, as his favorite. This plant has spotted leaves about 2" - 3" long, and the individual flowers are only about 1/8", but there are

lots of them clustered on the inflorescences. Roberta grows this plant outside, in a shady area that is watered by misters at least once per day (more in hot, dry weather)

Oncidium pumilum is native to much of Brazil, as well as parts of Argentina and Uruguay. According to Charles Baker in *Orchidwiz*, it is found at elevations from 1650– 2950 ft. (600-900 m) in swampy areas of subtropical rainforests. With its large geographical range, it clearly can adapt to a variety of temperature ranges, but does like water.



Oncidium pumilum

President's Message

Thank you Scott for your hospitality. It was interesting to see your shade house sustainable growing techniques (I think I was bit by one of Scott's insect army!), garden ideas and especially your daughter's pollywog catching expertise. Be sure and bring in your *Laelia tenebrosa* "Aurea" when it blooms.

<http://chadwickorchids.com/content/cattleya-lobata-laelia>

A couple of years ago my friend, Richard Hess, handed me a *Laelia lobata* "Alba" and said "I can't make this thing bloom, you take it or I'm throwing it in the trash. So I did. It sat for an entire season, had some new growth but no blooms. I should have repotted it but time got away, my justification leaving it alone. This year, however, it started with new growth and bloom sheaths. I ended up with 35 new growths and over 100 blooms.

Do something different today, even your orchids may enjoy the change, and you may unlock the key.

See you in July!

Dana Seelig, President

From the Member's Corner

We appreciate the distances that people travel to come to the meetings, particularly after our latest meeting at Scott McGregor's home. Members from Covina, Rolling Hills, Whittier & stops in between, made their way to San Juan Capistrano to see where Scott grows those miniature orchids he brings to Show-and-Tell. We were treated by our host to a tour of his compact greenhouse complete with live-in frogs & a lizard & a wonderful afternoon by the pool enjoying wine & snacks. What a way to impress our two guests, Yolanda Corella who came with May Cheng & Pat Weber, a repeat guest of Erica Jelovsek. Do you think it might inspire them to join us as members? See you in July at the Backs Community Center in Placentia.

Thanks, *Holly Hillman*

Dana's *Laelia lobata* f. *alba*

Editor's Potting Bench

First, I want to add my thanks to Scott for a fantastic visit. Here are a few photos. We had a great show-and-tell session along with being able to see Scott's VERY efficient growing area. With an enclosed shade house containing carnivorous plants, resident frogs, and occasional use of beneficial insects, he is able keep pests under control without the use of pesticides. The enclosure is open to the air (using mesh and shade cloth) so all the plants receive the full range of outdoor temperatures. People had to take turns, since there's not room for many at once, but everybody got a good look over the



Master of the (orchid) house



Carnivorous plants, pest control

Show and Tell table



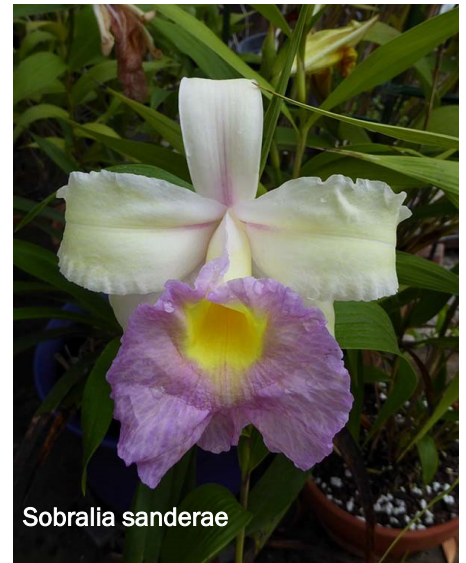
See: Editor's Potting Bench, Page 4

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

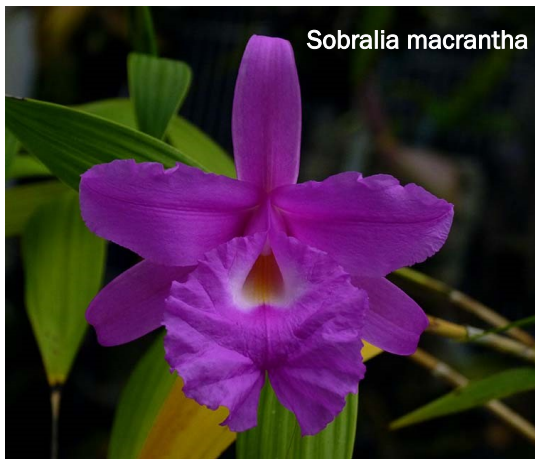
course of the afternoon.

July is wild and crazy with respect to orchid-acquiring opportunities. Hopefully you got down to Sunset Valley Orchids on July 1. Then there's Andy's Orchids open house the next weekend, and the Santa Barbara nurseries (SBOE and Cal Orchid) the following weekend. A one week break, and then there's the Newport Harbor Orchid Society Orchid and Exotic Plant sale at Westminster Mall. Be sure that you save a LITTLE money and space for our auction in September as well as the September shows. If you are potting those overgrown orchids and you have divisions, we really need donations for the auction as well.

I read in various places that July is a "down month" for orchid bloom-



Sobralia sanderae



Sobralia macrantha



Sobralia xantholeuca

at the species, I wonder why anybody bothers to hybridize! *S. macrantha* and *S. xantholeuca* have more intense color than their hybrids, and for the softer combination of colors, *S. sanderae* is at least as lovely, and more predictable than the above-mentioned hybrids.

Lycastes of the section *aromaticae* (including *Lyc. aromatica*, *Lyc. consobrina*, and *Lyc. cochleata* among others) all bloom right about now on nearly leafless pseudobulbs. They look similar, but side by side one can see differences, and fragrances are also different.

For me, *aromatica* is done, but the other two are blooming copiously.

No more room for photos, but a few *Laelia purpurata* color forms, that seem to bloom later than the big flush of



Lycaste cochleata

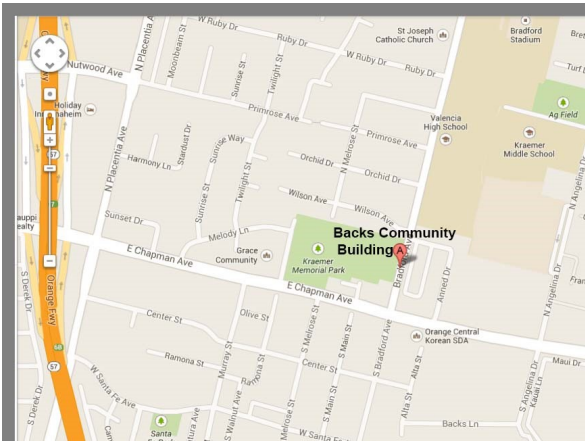
ing. Baloney. Maybe in some places it is, but in my yard, there is plenty of action. *Sobralias* are blooming vigorously. Individual flowers don't last long, but growths bloom sequentially and there are lots of them. These won't come to meetings—they're too big to transport (and even smaller ones are in clay pots with rocks on the bottom so that they don't blow over in the wind). When I look at the various *S. macrantha*—*S. xantholeuca* hybrids, then

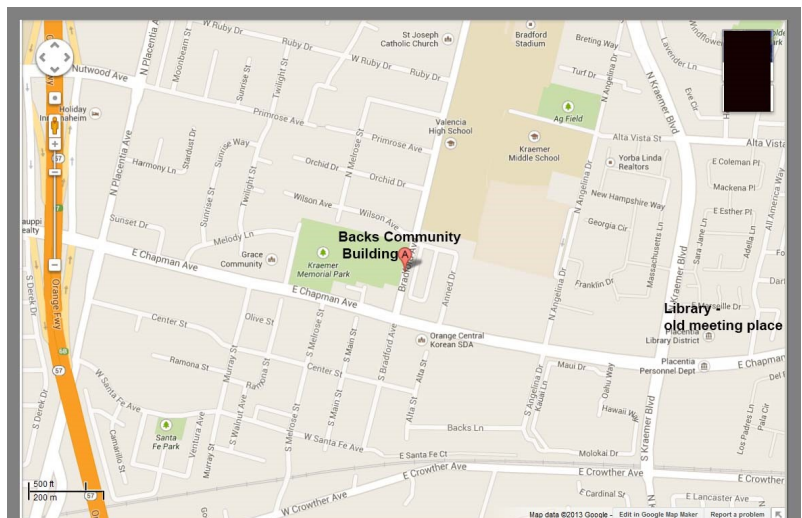
them

(for me, *werkhauseri*, *carnea*, and *sanguinea*), are also putting on a show now. The secret to always having something in bloom is to buy blooming plants in different seasons. The summer sales are the perfect time to ensure that your yard (and these are all outdoor growers) is also ablaze with orchids.

Roberta Fox, Editor

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

- **Sunset Valley Orchids Summer Open House***
July 1; 9 AM–5 PM
1255 Navel Place, Vista
Info: www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com or (760)310-0778
 - Fantastic discounts on all stock. Authentic handmade “street tacos” from 11 AM–2 PMPrint and bring flier for a free raffle ticket
 - **Andy’s Orchids Summer Open House***
July 7–9; 10 AM–4 PM
734 Ocean View Ave., Encinitas
Info: www.andysorchids.com
 - Print and bring flier for a free plant with qualifying purchase
 - **San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists Annual Auction***
June 15; Preview and Registration 6 PM, 7 PM Auction begins
Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia
Info: www.sgvo.org
 - **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House***
July 14-16; Friday and Saturday 8 AM–5 PM, Sunday 9 AM–4 PM
1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara
Info: sborchid.com
 - **Cal Orchid Open House***
July 14-16
1251 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara
Info: calorchid.com
 - **Newport Harbor Orchid Society Exotic Plant and Orchid Festival***
July 28-30; Saturday and Sunday 10 AM–9 PM, Sunday 11 AM–6 PM
Westminster Mall, Westminster
Info: www.nhosinfo.org
 - **South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale***
September 16-17; Sales Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4;
Show Sat. 11-5, Sun. 9-4
South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes
Info: www.southbayorchidsociety.com
 - **Fascination of Orchids International Show and Sale***
September 23-24, 2017
South Coast Plaza Village, 1621 W. Sunflower,
Santa Ana
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- A map of downtown Orange, California, centered around the intersection of E Chapman Avenue and S Main Street. A red pin marks the location of the "Backs Community Building". Other labeled streets include N Placentia Avenue, Sunset Drive, Center Street, Olive Street, Ramona Street, Melrose Street, and Aliso Street. Landmarks such as the "Kraemer Memorial Park" and "Orange Central Korean SDJA" are also visible. The map includes street names like Ruby Drive, Primrose Avenue, Wilson Avenue, and Broadway.



Parking lot is at the north side of the park, with entrance off Bradford Av. The Main Room of the Backs Community Building is on the upper level.

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.

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<p>Blossom Supplies Contact: Gordon Hong 626-542-3915</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>
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