

Fascination of Orchids, inc. A 501 (C) (3) Non Profit Organization

Fascination of Orchids Newsletter

Fascination of Orchids is organized to raise public interest in, and provide funding for educational programs related to orchids and ornamental horticulture. www.fascinationoforchids.com

Santa Ana Zoo at Prentice Park
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Newsletter

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Newsletter deadline is the 25th of the month prior to the month of issue.

Meeting: December 3, 2022 at 9:45 AM

Novelty Cattleyas

by Fred Clarke

In this webinar, learn about what used to be called, "Novelty Cattleyas." Fred Clarke will explain what parents are best used to create fanciful spotted and splash-petal cattleya hybrids.

Fred has been growing orchids from a very young age and currently is the owner of Sunset Valley Orchids (SVO) in Vista, CA. At SVO, many of the recently awarded cattleya, catasetum and dendrobium hybrids were developed under Fred's direction. Fred is an accredited AOC judge and has spoken at our society many times and each time I come away with some additional growing tips. Fred is an avid supporter of the OCB for many years, so come and join us for a most informative talk on Novelty Cattleyas, growing and culture.



President's Message

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving holiday. Maybe next year we can do a Pie-A-Thon or something similar.

The nights are cold now and your Cymbidiums should be starting to spike, and all of my Laelia anceps are in spike. I would cut back a little on the watering and fertilizing until the spring months when it warms up. We are getting a few days here and there with the Santa Ana winds and heat, not like the summer heat though, so I would water more during these periods and make sure to water the hanging plants well. Just be mindful of the weather when watering.

Be careful not to water too late in the afternoon because the night time temperatures are below 60 to 55 usually and if your pots/roots are wet when it's cold, it could promote root rot or mold.

See: President's Message, Page 2

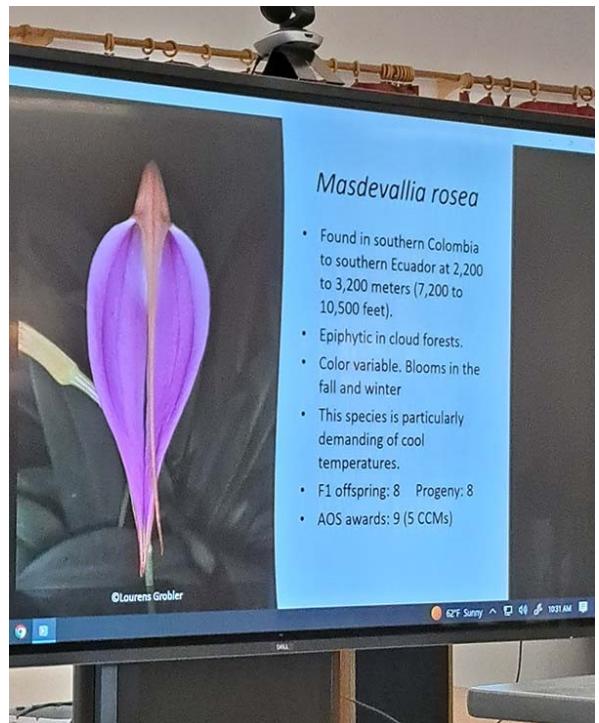
From Page 1, President's Message

I am still repotting, but I am only repotting plants in distress or where I see new roots emerging. Most of my cattleyas slow down growing in the cooler months and will not put out new growths until the spring/summer time. Cymbidiums, as I mentioned earlier should be starting to spike. Do not repot them now or they potentially won't bloom. If the potting mix is ok, leave them until the spring to summer months.

While Roberta and I were repotting at Pat Rowland's estate, I learned not to repot/mount *Laelia anceps* until you see the root bumps appear under the from leads/bulbs. You don't want these new rootlets to get out too far because if damaged, they will stop growing. Maybe one of our meetings we will have to have a mounting and repotting demonstration for those interested. Let me know. See you on Saturday.

Theo

From the November Meeting

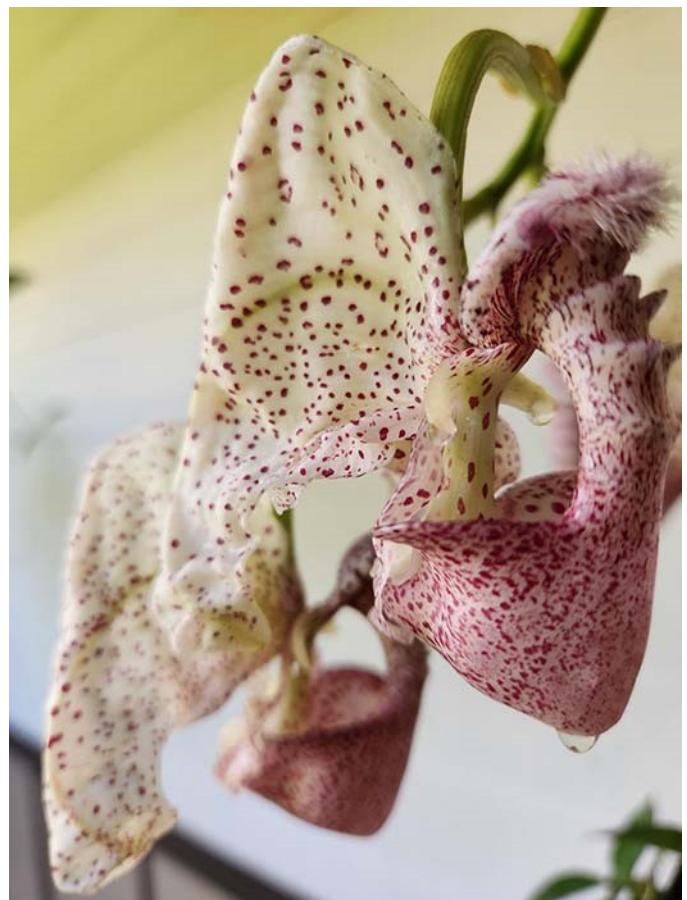


From Cheryl DiDonna:

Cheryl has moved from Huntington Beach to the Big Island of Hawai'i. In her new neighborhood, it is hot and humid, and that makes possible the growing of a whole different group of orchids. Here is a new acquisition, that has bloomed for her. This is the "bucket orchid", *Coryanthes alborosea*. Like Stanhopeas (to which *Coryanthes* are related), the flowers are pendant. They exude a liquid that makes it hard for bugs that fall into the "bucket" to get out. The only way out is a tight area where they pick up (or deliver) pollen. This species requires a warm, humid climate. Here it would need a greenhouse, but in Cheryl's new home, it should do just fine outside.



Coryanthes alborosea



Editor's Notes

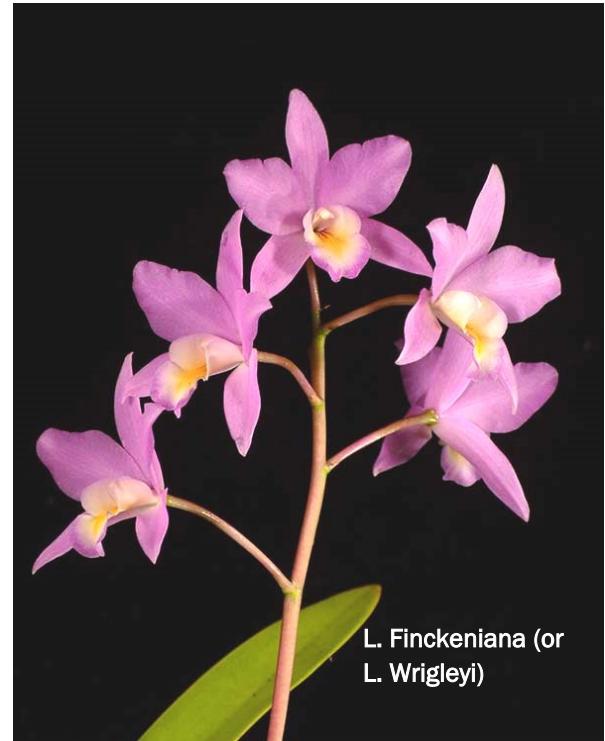


You should have your tender plants (such as the Catasetinae, and any Phals that have been outside) moved inside by now. Nights have been getting into the mid 40's F. We got some nice rain, but as I write this, we are in a cycle of Santa Ana winds, not particularly hot but extremely dry. Water early in the day so that the plants have a chance to absorb the water and then dry out before it gets cold in the evening. Since days are short, there is more time for them to get cold, less time to be warm.

Laelia anceps season has definitely started. The early bloomers are putting on a show. There are others that will bloom over the next couple of months.



L. anceps hybrids are also starting to bloom. Here is Laelia Finckeniana (L. anceps x L. albida) or possibly Laelia Wrigleyi (L. anceps x L. bowringiana). The lip is a bit different than the "known" L. Finckeniana plants that I have. Fred Clarke has seen these (lots of people have them) and is fairly certain that it is L. Wrigleyi. Either way, it is very vigorous and floriferous. Smaller flowers than L. anceps, but lots more of them.



Here is a beautiful, large Cattleya that also grows in my backyard. This is Cattleya Sapphire, a big, floofy coerulea.



This is also the season for Cattleya percivaliana. It laughs at cold weather. I grow it with some protection from rain, but that's it. The flowers are quite long-lasting—this one has been in bloom for a month. I also have a couple of other cultivars, that are just getting started so I will likely be able to enjoy C. percivaliana until New Year's.



Cymbidiums are blooming, too. I showed you some of the early ones last month. Many are just now in spike, having been triggered by the cool nights. Here is a species, Cym. erythrostylum. The shape is a bit different than the standard hybrids, it has a beautiful lip. I like it!



Cym. erythrostylum



Here is a lovely hybrid of Cym. erythrostylum crossed with Cym. erythraeum. It was made by Charles "Butch" Weckerly-Thrun, who worked with Pat Rowland, named for their friend.



Cym. Memoria Neal Crosswhite

Stanhopeas are weird and also frustrating since they don't stay in bloom very long. I have had this plant for 9 years, and this is its first bloom. The flowers lasted a little longer than others of the genus, 4-5 days. Worth the wait!



Stanhopea embreei



Stenoglottis longifolia is a South African terrestrial. The leaves start to die back as the plant blooms. The flowers open toward the tip of the spike over several weeks.. I have found that if I bring it inside

ANNOUNCEMENTS

See the [Events page](#) for further details

- **Sunset Valley Orchids Open House**

December 3, 2022; 9 AM–4 PM

1255 Navel Pl, Vista

Info: www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

Come to the meeting and then head down to SVO!

- **AOS third annual Orchid Culture Day**

December 4, 2022; starting 8 AM PST, online

[Click Here to Register](#) Cost: \$30

(<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3170416916604535823>)

- **Andy's Orchids Winter Open House**

December 9-11, 2022; 10 AM–4 PM

724 Ocean View Ave., Encinitas

Info: www.andysorchids.com

- **Orchids in the Park Show and Sale**

January 28-29, 2023: Sat. Noon to 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM–4 PM

Balboa Park's Casa del Prado, Room 101 (Now the Natural History Museum), San Diego

Info: www.sdorchids.com

- **Santa Barbara International Orchid Show**

March 10-12, 2023; 9 AM–5 PM

Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara

Info: www.sborchidshow.com

while in bloom, the spike just quits. It seems to need the cool of the outdoors. I don't dry it out when it is dormant, since the new growth starts just a few weeks after the leaves and spike die back.



Roberta Fox, Editor

Stenoglottis longifolia

