



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

Placentia Library

411 E. Chapman Ave, Placentia
(Corner of Chapman and Kraemer)

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Outdoor Growing Roundtable SCOSS Members

Spring is the season for all sorts of orchid-related activity. Show season is in full swing, with opportunities to acquire new orchids occurring somewhere nearby nearly every weekend. Plants are putting out new growth and new roots, ready for potting. Some of those plants that we have been pampering indoors through the worst of the winter weather are getting moved outdoors. We have it a lot better than most of the country, but it is still early enough in the year that Mother Nature has some tricks up her sleeve. Temperatures can be summer-like one day and wintry the next. The sun angle, and therefore the amount of light that plants receive, may change quite abruptly in some locations. This month, we will take the opportunity for some of our more experienced growers to share with everyone the insights that they have acquired in dealing with the challenges and opportunities of the season.



Hail on shade cloth



Not quite "snow", but significant hail in
Costa Mesa February 8, 2013

Speaker's Choice

February speaker Fred Clarke selected the dramatic *Bulbophyllum burfordiense* brought in by Nick Braemer, since his talk was on *Bulbophyllum*s and this was an excellent example of the beauty and “weirdness” that often characterizes this genus. Nick had only recently acquired the plant in bloom (30 hours previous, he said) so he could not yet discuss his experience in growing it. However, Fred noted some observations that told a lot about what the plant required. It was growing in a shallow clay pot, that was covered with algae. These plants originate in an area where they receive nearly constant rain, and their roots have evolved to absorb water very slowly. They need to be kept quite damp. However, they also need air around the roots, so they should not be over-potted. The bottom of the pot should contain rocks or Styrofoam “peanuts”, with sphagnum moss or other moisture-holding medium on top. They are shallow-rooted, and grow and bloom best when the pot is quite crowded. This is a mature, multiple-growth plant that has reached the “critical mass” to produce lots of vigorous new growth. Note that this



plant has five or six new growths visible in the photo.

Bulbophyllum burfordiense (similar to



or perhaps synonymous with *Bulb. grandiflorum*) is native to New Guinea (in both Papua New Guinea and the Indonesian Irian Jaya regions) and the Solomon Islands. It grows from sea level to about 1500 ft. (500 m), where it experiences warm to hot tropical temperatures year-around.

From the Member's Corner

Our February guest, Alexandra Allen, became a member, please welcome her to our family of orchid enthusiasts.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

Hi everyone,

I thought our display at the Westminster show was quite impressive! We showed the variety of orchids and that orchids can have very unique inflorescence. We did have four plants that won awards. I would like to thank all those who donated plants to the show: Roberta, Jan, Ed, Dick, Marshall, Norito and Edie. I would also like to thank those who helped with set-up and take-down: Barbara, Yolanda, Roberta, Marshall and Edie.

Our speaker was Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids. Fred's presentation focused on Bulbophyllums and their hybrids. When I visited Fred's greenhouses, I was quite impressed with his Bulbo collection. I've had little luck with Bulbos in the past, but Fred's presentation has inspired me to try to grow more of these unique orchids.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting!

Darrell Lovell, President

SCOSS Display Newport Harbor Orchid Society Show, "Show Us Your Bloomers"



More on Page 4, see "SCOSS Display"

SCOSS Display, from Page 3



Ribbon Winners (from left to right)

<i>Rhyncholaelia glauca</i> , Ed Wise	3rd
<i>Dendrobium equitans</i> , Roberta Fox	3rd
<i>Dendrochilum cootesii</i> , Edie Gulrich	3rd
<i>Cymbidium dayanum</i> , Roberta Fox	1st



Editor's Potting Bench

Thank you to all who helped to create our display and/or who supplied plants. We had a nice range of unique plants. There are always a few regrets for the ones that reached their peak too early, or that waited until right after the show to do their thing, but for those, "wait until next year". I delight in my orchids whenever they decide to bloom. Competitive orchid growing is, for me, very secondary.

I just got back from a very enjoyable, and productive, visit to the Pacific Orchid Exposition in San Francisco. Nice displays, but as always the shopping was

amazing. There are some excellent species growers in the SF Bay area, and many vendors who attend only that show (or at any rate never come south). As a "backyard grower" I am particularly attracted to those orchids that can tolerate the winter chill. The challenge, of course, is that some of those plants also prefer the cooler summers on the central and northern California coast. So my batting average for *Masdevallias* isn't as good as I'd like, but for *Draculas*, not bad. I'm trying a few things to see if I can identify what is working for the Dracs and try to apply it to the Masdies. Stay tuned...

Orchids teach patience. It is always thrilling to see a plant respond to your care, but it is tempting to decide

Calendar of Events

* See flyer at www.socalorchidspecies.com, select the [Events](#) link

- **South Bay Orchid Show and Sale***
March 2-3, 2013—Sales 10-5; Show Sat. 12-5, Sun. 10-5
Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Dr., Torrance
Info: www.southbayorchidsociety.com
- **Santa Barbara International Orchid Show***
March 8-10, 2013—9 AM—5 PM
Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara
Info: www.sborchidshow.com
- **Long Beach Amateurs Orchid Society Annual Auction**
March 11, 2013 6 PM Preview, 6:30 PM Auction begins
St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall, 6201 E. Willow St., Long Beach
Info: info@lbaos.com, Gary Putnam (562)431-7025 or Irma Hughes (714)897-2902, www.lbaos.com
- **San Diego Orchid Society's "Orchids by the Sea" Show and Sale***
March 22–24, 2013— Fri. 3-7 PM, Sat. 9 AM—6PM, Sun. 10 AM—4 PM
Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego
Info: www.sdorchids.com or (760)529-2947
- **Central Coast Orchid Show and Sale***
April 6-7, 2013—Sat. 9 AM—5 PM, Sun. 10 AM—5 PM
South County Regional Center, 800 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande
Info: www.fcos.org or (805)929-5749

too soon that something is working—a couple of months is not enough to judge. Keep observing. It can take a year or even more to be sure that you are truly meeting the needs of a particular species, that its growing and blooming is not just coincidental. Some can be unforgiving, but there are survivors. I have an *Oncidium cavendishianum*, that I acquired in 1999, that had never bloomed for me. I think I initially tried to grow it warm, since it is one of the mule ear *Oncidiums* (*Trichocentrum*) and most of those are indeed warm growers.— it was not happy, nearly lost it. It had its ups and downs. but I think I finally figured out what it wanted: outside, in a clay pot, straight diatomite, hanging. First bloom! Only 14 years... Opening soooo sloooooowly... only two open for a photo, more by meeting time.

Roberta Fox, Editor



Trichocentrum (Onc.) cavendishianum

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 734 Oceanview Ave Encinitas, CA 92024 760-436-4235, www.andysorchids.com</p>	<p>Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 1251 Orchid Dr Santa Barbara, CA 93111 805-967-1312, www.calorchid.com</p>	<p>Cal-West Tropical Supply Contact: Brad & Ryan Wicks 11614 Sterling Av Riverside, CA 92503 951-351-1880, www.calwesttropical.com</p>
<p>Casa de las Orquideas Contact: Nancy & Karl Batchman 170 S Nardo Av Solana Bch, CA 92075 858-755-7572, www.orquideas.com</p>	<p>Diamond Orchids Contact: Peter Lin 834 Featherwood Dr Diamond Bar, CA 91765 909-396-0334, www.diamondorchids.com</p>	<p>Ecuagenera Contact: Ivan Portilla PO Box 01011110 Cuenca, Ecuador www.ecuagenera.com</p>
<p>Lico Orchids Contact: Lisa Humphries & Nico Goosens 309 Via Nancita Encinitas, CA 92024 760-942-4143</p>	<p>Marcel's Contact: Sonora Winward 5133 Kildee St. Long Beach, CA 90808 562-843-5951</p>	<p>Mariposa Garden Contact: Ron Hill 6664 South St Lakewood, CA 90713 562-920-5588, www.mariposagarden.com</p>
<p>Mr. Fertilizer Contact: Don Knipp 247 23rd St Costa Mesa, CA 92626 949-548-2678</p>	<p>Orange County Farm Supply Contact: Chris Roy 1826 W Chapman Av Orange, CA 92868 714-978-6500, www.ocfarmssupply.com</p>	<p>Orchids by Zeny Contact: Zeny Harrington 22920 Cajalco Rd Perris, CA 92570 951-236-0291</p>
<p>Orchids of Los Osos Contact: Michael Glikbarg 1614 Sage Ave. Los Osos, CA 93402 805-528-0181, www.orchidsoflososos.com</p>	<p>OrchidWiz 145 NE 95th Street Miami Shores, FL 33138 305-758-3596, www.orchidwiz.com</p>	<p>Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 6961 Livingston Dr Huntington Bch, CA 92648 714-841-0442, www.orchidbasket.com</p>
<p>Paphanatics Contact: Norito Hasegawa 159 Monterey Rd Orange, CA 92866 714-639-1387</p>	<p>rePotme.com Orchid Mixes and Supplies 10608 Floral Park Lane North Potomac, MD 20878 301-315-2344, www.repotme.com</p>	<p>Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Contact: Alice & Parry Gripp 1250 Orchid Dr Santa Barbara, CA 93111 800-553-3387, www.sborchid.com</p>
<p>Seed Engei Contact: Satomi Kasahara 1622 Moreno St Oceanside, CA 92054</p>	<p>Sorella Orchids Contact: Nenita Sorella 100 Frenchys Cove #71 Camarillo, CA 93012 360-607-9342, www.sorellaorchids.com</p>	<p>Sunset Valley Orchids Contact: Fred Clarke 1255 Navel Pl Vista, CA 92083 760-639-6255, www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com</p>
	<p>The Rowland Collection Contact: Pat Rowland 12446 S Georgian St Garden Grove, CA 92841 714-892-3502</p>	