

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

Backs Community Building, Main Room

201 N. Bradford Ave., Placentia

(Chapman and Bradford, parking off Bradford)

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July 12, 2015

Improving Your Floral Photography

Don Goss

Don Goss received his first 35mm camera at age 9. At age 10 he was doing his own film developing and printing in the darkroom. Fast-forward to 1992; he played chauffeur for an ex-girlfriend to Stewart's Orchids near Santa Barbara. He got into one of the back rooms (off limits to the public) and found a Vanda that was "NOT FOR SALE"!; they told him repeatedly. He called his Italian uncle Vinnie, who "*made them an offer they couldn't refuse*". ☺ That was his first orchid. He has since combined his love of photography with his love of orchids. Don's photographs have been published in "Orchids" magazine and he has received a number of AOS awards, most recently **a pair of FCC's**.

Would YOU like to have photographs of your orchids that are "wall worthy"? Or, when your friends see your pictures, they say "WOW, you took that"? Like growing orchids, the 80/20 rule also applies to photography. You have a camera (point-and-shoot, cell phone, or a DSLR), and that's the 20%. Getting a wonderful photograph is about setting up the right conditions under which you are shooting. You're going to learn how to use whatever camera you have and to control the conditions for making more beautiful photographs.

This will not be a technical discussion! He won't be talking about depth of field, f-stops, the physics of light or how your particular camera works. This will be a practical application for photographing at shows, meetings and at home. If all you know is how to snap a picture, then you're in! AND, if you have been shooting for a long time, you'll gain new insights.

So bring whatever camera you have to the meeting and let's have fun and make some art!



Cell phones take good pictures too...

Speaker's Choice

June speaker Francisco Miranda had a dilemma when he went to make his Speaker's Choice. He really wanted to go for *Laelia purpurata*, but thought that, perhaps, was too obvious. So he continued down the Show and Tell table. His gaze was drawn to *Dracula Raven*, grown by Nick Braemer. It is huge, and the dark color is spectacular. But, Francisco thought, should he choose a hybrid at a species club? It's a primary hybrid, *Drac. (vampira x roezlii)* so within the guidelines for our Show and Tell, but still not a species. Then he was drawn to a spectacular *Masdevallia coccinea*, also grown by Nick. His cool greenhouse lets these high-altitude Pleurothallids grow to perfection. But, Francisco finally decided, never mind conflict of interest, he did love *Laelia purpurata* f. *schusteriana*, grown by Roberta Fox.

Laelia purpurata grows in coastal forests in south and southwest Brazil. There are dozens of "named" varieties and forms. Indeed, Francisco pointed out that so much do the commercial growers focus on the unusual color forms that are popular, that it is actually difficult to find the typical ("tipo") form that is most commonly found in nature. These grow easily outside in southern California, and are blooming profusely now.



Masdevallia coccinea



Dracula Raven



Laelia purpurata f. *schusteriana*

From the Member's Corner

We had a guest in June, Edie Loose; she did not list the city that she was from. But, as always, glad to have had her visit and hope she returns soon.

The auction will be upon us very soon, so please starting thinking about possible donations from your divisions. Also, if you hear of any new vendors or have done business with someone new, please let us know, so we can include them in our list of vendors. Please think about volunteering for one of the various duties needed at the auction. Thank you and have a great fourth of July.

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

Hello everyone,

Once again it is time to begin planning for our auction in October. If you have some plants that need to be divided, perhaps you might consider donating some for the auction. At the meeting next month we will have sign-up sheets available for those who would like to volunteer some of their time and talent.

Recently I attended the annual auction of the Orchid Society of Southern California in Burbank. They had some great plants, and I enjoyed chatting with their president, Carol Beule. I was able to add two orchids to my collection: a *Baptistonia echinata* and a *Ceratostylis rubra*. It has been a number of years since I was in Burbank, and I was pleased to discover a great promenade with a nice variety of small shops. The down side was the traffic

coming home!

July is a busy month for growers' open house events. There are three on the weekend of July 10 – 12 (same weekend as our July meeting) taking place at Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, Cal Orchid, and Andy's Orchids in Encinitas.

Before our monthly meeting we take our guest speaker to lunch at Marie Calendar's, 126 E Yorba Linda Blvd., (corner of Bradford & Yorba Linda Blvd.) Anyone is welcome to join us, just let me know if you are interested.

See you at the next meeting!

Darrell Lovell

Editor's Potting Bench

If your yard isn't full of blooming orchids, you need to take advantage of those open houses to broaden your collection! *Laelia purpurata* plants continue to pop—the earlier ones are done, but the different color forms bloom at slightly different times, extending the season. *Carnea* and *alba* are blooming now, *sanguinea* usually waits until mid July. Also, as the *L. purpuratas* wind down, the closely related *L. tenebrosas* are ramping up. I have found that *L. tenebrosa* prefers just a little more shade and winter protection than *L. purpurata*.

I have a couple of Brazilian *Cattleya* species that just missed the last meeting, and I regret not being able to share them with Francisco. One is *Cattleya schilleriana*. This one also grows nicely outside, but the secret to success seems to be to greatly reduce winter watering (more than others) and protect from rain (in case we get any). This one is a photographic challenge. My "studio shots" just don't capture the color and pattern properly. So, this photo was taken out in the growing area with sunlight, and it a lot closer to the essence of the flower, though I'm not satisfied with the background. I'll keep trying. Another one that just missed the meeting is *Cattleya warneri*. That one does need a greenhouse. It is closely related to *C. labiata*, which also is warm-growing.



Cattleya schilleriana



Cattleya warneri

See: Editor's Potting Bench, Page 4

Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

Rhyncholaelia digbyana



Another sure sign of summer is *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*. These grow better for me outside than in the greenhouse, having tried them both ways. Again, the secret seems to be to greatly reduce water in winter and protect from rain.

A weird and wonderful species is *Dendrobium brymerianum*. I have had this plant for a couple of years. From the Baker culture sheet, it appeared to be able to tolerate cool winter nights with protection from rain. However, the plant did not grow all that well for me. One of the publications that I read is [Orchid Review](#), the publication of the Royal Horticultural Society. (I highly recommend it for some excellent species articles and outstanding scholarship) Each issue features some of the RHS-awarded plants, including an interview with the grower, containing much cultural information. While growing in the UK is really different than here, being essentially all in greenhouses, sometimes there are useful tips. Recently there was a discussion of a superb example of this species, and the owner indicated that he had tried growing it in a cool greenhouse, but found that it did much better when moved to a warm area. Based on that information, I conclude that while the species may grow over a wide elevation range, individual plants may not be so flexible. I have

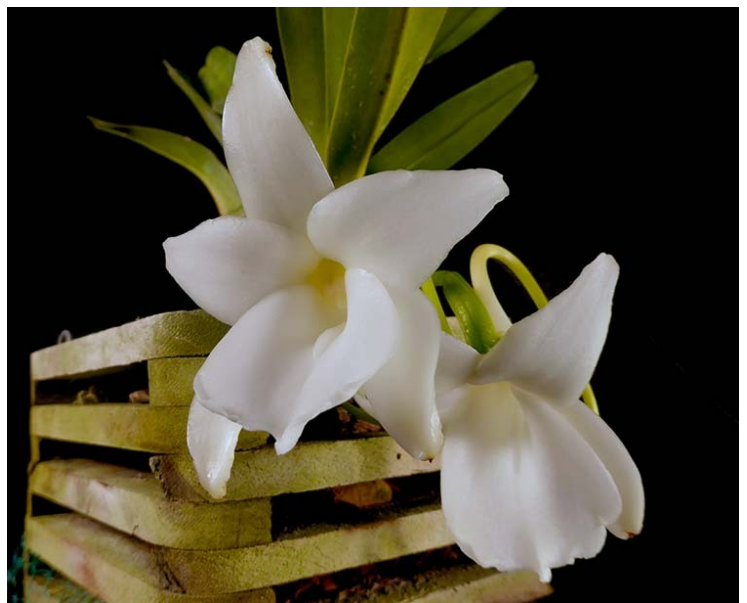
moved it to the greenhouse, and it rewarded me by blooming at last. Warm it shall be.

Dendrobium brymerianum



Moving back outside, many Angraecoids do very nicely with cool nights. If I need any convincing, the fact that I experienced plenty of cold at very modest elevations in Madagascar was the clincher. *Angraecum magdalenae* is a highlands species. It does need to be kept on the dry side in winter. I move such plants into a sheltered area once the nights get much below 50 deg. F, and that seems to help them. This one is very fragrant at night.

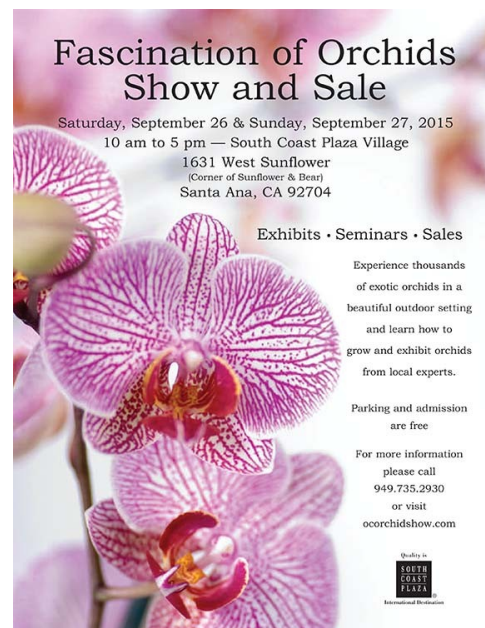
Roberta Fox, Editor



Angraecum magdalenae

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

- **Cal Orchid's Summer Hummer**
July 10-12, 2015 9 AM—5 PM
1251 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
Info: www.calorchid.com
 - Neofinetia falcata judging Japanese style Saturday Jul 11 2 PM. Meet Jason Fischer, Satomi Kasahara, Kristin Uthis
 - Lots of specials all over the nursery. Sobralias blooming.
 - Guest vendors: Tokyo Orchids Nursery (Japan), Suwada Orchids (Japan), New Horizon Orchids (California) - a rare opportunity to meet and talk to Andy Easton and buy some of his newest Cymbidiums
 - Delicious barbecue
- **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Summer Open House**
July 10-12, 2015; Friday, Saturday 8 AM-5 PM, Sunday 9 AM—4 PM
1250 Orchid Dr., Santa Barbara
info: www.sborchid.com
 - Fragrant and exotic beauties of summer—Cattleyas, Laelias, Stanhopeas, and many others
 - Those wonderful \$7.50 specials
 - Guest author Dr. Ken Cameron, Vanilla expert
- **Andy's Orchids Open House**
July 10-12, 2015
734 Ocean View Ave, Encinitas
Info: www.andysorchids.com
- **Newport Harbor Summer Exotic Plant and Orchid Festival**
August 8-9; Friday 10 AM—9 PM, Saturday 10 AM-7 PM, Sunday 11 AM—6 PM
Westminster Mall, Westminster
Info: www.nhosinfo.org
- **Fascination of Orchids International Show and Sale***
September 26-27, 2015, 10 AM—5 PM
South Coast Plaza Village, 1631 W Sunflower, Santa Ana (Corner of Sunflower and Bear)
Info: www.ocorchidshow.com



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>Asbell Orchids Contact: Bob & Dan Asbell 805-550-5484</p>	<p>Blossom Supplies Contact: Gordon Hong 626-975-5293, blossomplanting@aol.com www.blossomproducts.com</p>
<p>Calavo Gardens Orchids Contact: Ben & Suzy Machado 619-660-9810, BMACH16814@aol.com</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>
<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>Estate of Patricia Rowland Contact: Theodore Johnson (714) 979-5887,</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>Granite Hills Orchids Contact: Tom Biggart (619) 441-9874, tombiggart@mac.com www.granitehillspotteryandorchids.com</p>	<p>Green Thumb Nursery Contact: Jason Moine 949-837-3040, www.greenthumb.com</p>	<p>Hatfield Orchids Contact: George Hatfield 805-901-0340, www.hatfieldorchids.com</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 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>Outdoor Images Contact: John Remlinger 714-841-0442, www.orchidbasket.com</p>	<p>Paphanatics Contact: Norito Hasegawa 714-639-1387, norito1@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Phrao Orchids Nursery Contact: Katai phraoorchidsnursery@gmail.com www.facebook.com/Nursery.at.Phrao</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>Tuyet's Orchids Contact: Tiep Nguyen</p>