



April 2011 Newsletter

Affiliations American Orchid Society The Orchid Digest	Proud Supporter of 5 Cities Homeless Coalition
President: Chris Ehrler	Vice President: Danny Stocks
Secretary: Anne Bachmann	Treasurer: Christina Holenda
Directors at Large: Larry Vierheilg, Scott St. Clair and Rosemary Bradshaw	
Newsletter Editor: Anne Bachmann	

Our Next Meeting (Danny Stocks)

Greetings to all of our new friends from the orchid show. I was the plant doctor for a while at the show and the number one question I was asked was how do I take care of my orchids? So with so that in mind, our speaker this month will be our own Jeffery Thompson. He has been growing orchids since 1989. He will be speaking about what has worked for him and what has not. Anyone who grows orchids knows you kill a lot of orchids before you start getting good at growing them. Even if you are a seasoned grower, Jeffery's presentation will have something to offer you.

Jeffery lives in Santa Barbara and is a member of four different orchid Societies including ours. Do you think he has orchid fever? His back yard, known as the jungle, is only 50'x50' but is entirely covered in orchids. He has three greenhouses, two or three shade houses, and a dry area. Though he considers himself a hobbyist, he is an expert in growing almost all kinds of orchids. His presentation will be very informal so bring your comments and questions. The meeting should be fun so I hope to see you there.

March Meeting Summary (Chris Ehrler)

Audrey Young-Tarter was the guest speaker at our March meeting. She spoke to us about peloric orchids with her main concentration on Cymbidiums. Peloric orchids have been defined as abnormally regular or symmetrical with the other two petals showing characteristics of the lip in either shape, color or both. Some folks refer to them as "beautiful" while others say they look "deformed". Guess you get to make your own decision. Turns out you can find peloric orchids in many different orchid genera with Audrey showing us a number of examples. There are also sepal peloricism where the lower part of the lower sepals will match the coloration of the lip. When a new peloric orchid is found, they are monetarily quite valuable. In the future, folks that breed for peloric characteristics are trying to increase the color and form of the blooms, working on getting the orchids to bloom at a younger age and trying to increase the probability of peloricism in seedling.

President's Message (Chris Ehrler)

By the time you read this, our 16th Annual Central Coast Orchid Show and Sale will be over. If you were not there, you missed a great show. I can write this prior to the show and be confident that the show was successful because of the many hours that the show committee has spent getting ready for this great event. I do not gauge the show as a success or failure by the number of people that come to see the show but more by a show where folks that might know little if anything about orchids could learn about the fascinating world of orchids. Even the most avid grower of orchid should have learned something new after attending at show. Check out our website in a month or so after the show and hopefully we will have posted photos of some of the award winning orchids.

Hope you all had the chance to see our joint display with the Santa Maria Orchid Society and the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. One of Larry Vierheilg's cattleyas won BEST CATTLEYA SPECIMEN in the show. He has been perfecting his growing ability for years and this plant definitely deserved the award. Larry recently let me know that if you were not able to attend the show, you can see photos of the displays by going to orchidsb.net and clicking on Gallery. Thanks to the folks that drove to Santa Barbara to both set up the display and to take it back down. The display looked great and was well received by those that attended the show.

You might be wondering if we could ever win such a high honor for your orchid. It will definitely take some time and effort but I think if we learn what types of orchids will grow well in the area we have at our home or apartment and then spend the time to learn about each plant's requirements and match the requirements, then I think we would all be able to grow better blooming orchids. But you might wonder what will grow well for me. This will take some experimenting and all orchid growers throw many orchids to the compost pile after they have died.

Make sure you attend all the monthly meetings and ask questions about orchid culture of the folks at our meeting that bring in plants for show and tell. Hope to see you at the April FCOS meeting.

was among our best ever. So, Thank You all who made our Central Coast Orchid Show a reality.

Show Chairman (Eric Holenda)

I want to express my gratitude to all those who helped to make the Show happen. Each year, it seems that each of you gives what you can, in a capacity that you find comfortable for yourself. Each has different talents and time available, but the cumulative result is that we are able to put together one heck of a show every year. Although attendance was probably our lowest ever, I think the quality of the Show

2011 Orchid Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Comments
04/14/11	FCOS monthly meeting	Arroyo Grande Women's Club	7:30pm
04/10/11	Coastal Valley Orchid Show & Barbecue	Home of Harry Brankov in Los Olivos	Noon - Meal - Cost: Members \$8.00 & Non-Members ~ \$10.00. - Tour of Harry's greenhouses Contact Phil Rietz, 736-3020 or Van Bivans, 735-4541 for more information
04/16/11	Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Show & Sale,	United Methodist Church, 2000 Woodside Rd, Redwood City, 94061 (Corner of Alameda de las Pulgas)	10 - 4pm FREE admission & parking - Audrey (408) 741-2882
April 16 & 17	Sacramento Orchid Society Show & Sale	Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H Street, Sacramento	10-5pm, Sunday 10-4pm, Admission \$5 sacramentoorchids.org/index.php/springshowandsale
05/01/11	AAUW Garden Tour	Vist six unique gardens in Morro Bay, Los Sos and Cayucos	Noon – 5 pm Tickets \$10 for self-guiding tour available at all Miner's Hardware, Farm Supply SLO, Volumes of Pleasure Bookstore in Los Osos, Coalesce Bookstore in Morry Bay, and any AAUW member of Morro Bay Branch. More info 235-5779 or morrobayaauw.org
ay 7 & 8	C armel Valley Garden Show	Hidden Valley Music Seminars, 88 West Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel Valley	8-4 pm – Free www.cvgardenshow.com