



December 2006

Newsletter

<u>Affiliations</u> American Orchid Society The Orchid Digest	<u>Proud Supporter of</u> Alzheimer's Association of the Central Coast
President: Chris Ehrler	Vice President: Eric Holenda
Secretary: Linda Kipe	Treasurer: Christina Holenda
Directors at Large: Frank Madrid, Scott St. Clair and Danny Stocks	
Newsletter Editor: Chris Ehrler	

WE NEED YOUR HELP! The Orchid Society Of Santa Barbara is having their annual exhibition and sale this next weekend (December 9 & 10). FCOS needs blooming orchids to use in your society's display. If you have plants you would like used in our display, please contact either Eric Holenda (929-5749) or Chris (489-9046) before Wednesday evening (December 6) to make arrangements to drop your plants off by Thursday at the latest. We are also looking for one or more persons to go to Santa Barbara on Friday December 8 to help Eric set up the display. If you have some free time and can give him a hand, please call him. If you want to go see the show it will be held at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum at 2599 Puesta del Sol Rd in Santa Barbara. Show times are Saturday from 10 am – 5 pm and Sunday 10am – 3 pm. Admission to the museum and show is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors (over 65) and youths between 13-17 year of age, and \$5 for children 1-12. There will be a beautiful display of orchids in bloom, guided tours of the show, a "parade" of *Laelia anceps*", and gift buying opportunities.

Our Next Meeting

The treat fairies for the December meeting will be everyone that shows up. That right, its our December potluck and silent auction. FCOS will supply ham and you are all encouraged to bring a side dish, a salad, or a dessert. Also, bring along your place setting and something to drink. We do not have alcohol insurance so please leave it at home. If you have a nice flowering orchid you would like to share with the group as a centerpiece on the food table, please bring it along. We will make certain it is not accidentally put on the auction tables.

After dinner we will have our winter silent auction. This is a major fundraiser for FCOS and helps keep the cost of our dues low. This is an excellent time to make adjustments to your orchid collection. If you have orchids that have not been growing well for you (you just might not have the correct conditions for this orchid), or you have too many for your growing area, or you have made some divisions and want others to be able to grow some of them, please donate them to FCOS for this sale. If you have orchid related items you are interested in donating these would also be gladly accepted for the silent auction. If you want to fill out a bid sheet for your donation in advance, let me know and I will send the blank sheet to you. If your plants are not in bloom and you have a photos of it bring it along so bidders can see it in bloom. If you are still looking for some great deals on orchids, please bring along your checkbook and bid high and often on the

plants. I can almost guarantee you will be happy with the price you will pay for your new plants.

President Corner – Chris Ehrler

Are you still trying to figure out what to add to the list of what YOU want for Christmas? How about adding a subscription to either the AOS magazine ("ORCHIDS") or the Orchid Digest publication. If you join as a new member of AOS they will send you 12 monthly issues of ORCHIDS, a copy of YOUR FIRST ORCHID book, a free plant, and a few other items. The subscription is \$60 for one year or \$108 for two years. You can contact them by phone at (561) 404-2000, by mail at 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Bach, FL 33446-4351 or by email at TheAOS@aos.org. Their website can be found at www.aos.org. Subscription to the Orchid Digest publication is only \$32 for one year and \$60 for two years. You will receive an issue each quarter, including their fourth quarter issue each year that generally deals with in depth information about a single group of orchids. The Orchid Digest's purpose is to increase the appreciation and improve the culture of orchids. For info about membership email the Orchid Digest membership@orchiddigest.org or mail dues to Orchid Digest Membership, PO Box 10360, Canoga Park, CA 91309-1360. You will enjoy both the articles and photographs that are published in both of these magazines.

Your show committee has been busy at monthly meetings. Things are moving along smoothly. We have had confirmation that both judges from the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America will judge the show plants. Hope your favorite plans are in bloom during our show that will be held on March 30-April 1, 2007. Please mark you calendars so you will be able to attend your society's great show. One of the judges recently told me that he thinks our show is one of the best small shows he attends during the year.

FCOS October meeting summary – Chris Ehrler

Our main speakers for the October meeting were Christina and Eric Holenda. They took us on a photo tour of a trip they took to New Guinea. They circumnavigated Irian Jaya, or as it is now known West New Guinea. Although orchid diversity was low, the program was rich with local culture, including photos of the Asmat people who are one of the few relatively intact native cultures in the world. We were shown photos of their costumes, homeland, and world-renowned woodcarving. They were also shown slides of *Paphiopedilum wilhelminiae* growing in the wild in the extreme western trip of New Guinea.

Five Cities Orchid Society
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Orchid Calendar

Dates	Event	Location	Comments
Thursday December 14 7:00pm	FCOS Meeting	AG Woman's Club 211 Vernon Street Arroyo Grande	Annual December Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction.. FCOS will supply the ham, and everyone is requested to bring a side dish, salad or dessert. Dinner will begin at 7PM. NOTE EARLIER TIME THAN NORMAL.
December 9-10, 2006	Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History	2599 Puesta del Sol Road Santa Barbara, CA	Annual orchid exhibition and sale. Open Saturday from 10am-5pm and Sunday from 10am-3pm. Admission to the museum allows you to see the show for free. For info call (805) 563-2894 or visit www.west.net/~orchidsb .
March 30-April 1 2007	FCOS 2007 Show	South County Regional Center, Arroyo Grande	The show theme is "Orchid Treasures". Show will be judged by judges from the American Orchid Society (AOS) and the Cymbidium Society of America (CSA)