



May 2008 Newsletter

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

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on May 8th at the Women's Club in Arroyo Grande starting at 7:30PM. Our very own Christina and Eric Holenda will present slides of their March 2007 trip to Borneo. Borneo, the world's third largest island, is legendary as the home of some of our planet's most incredible orchid species. As always, their program will also cover native culture and wildlife, including elephants, orangutans, pythons, etc., plus photos of *Rafflesia*, the world's largest flower. Come join us as they share their exotic adventure! Eric will be supplying the plants for the opportunity table.

President's Message

Hope everyone is having a blooming good month. I just have a few things for the message this month. It is not too early to start thinking about next year's show. We will be taking suggestions for next year's show theme at our next meeting. Don't forget to put your name on the paper with your suggestions. The winner will be announced at the June meeting. Get those creative juices flowing. We have had some fun themes for the last few years and hope to continue down that path. If you are not having fun with what you do than try something else.

I announced at last meeting that Eric has more than fulfilled his term as vice-president. We are looking for someone to fill this position. It is a two year position that he has been doing for more than 4 years. He has done an awesome job but needs a break. If you are interested in becoming involved with the club this is a great opportunity. The vice-president lines up our speakers and introduces them at the meetings.

Lastly and the most fun, we are going to have a joint activity with the Santa Maria Society. We are going to go to Bob Asbell's Greenhouses for a tour. It will be on May 17 at 10:30. See below for more information. Come to the May Meeting for the final details. Parking is very limited carpooling is suggested. I will see everyone at the May meeting. Aloha Danny

Asbell's Orchid Nursery Greenhouse Open House and Tour

FCOS members Bob and Dan Asbell will have they orchid nursery open on May 17th starting at 10:30am. The greenhouse is located at 200 Orchid Lane, Arroyo Grande. Directions are as follows: **1).** From the SOUTH, exit Hwy 101 at Traffic Way in Arroyo Grande **2).** At the bottom of the off-ramp, make a hard right turn onto Traffic Way Extension **3).** Proceed on Traffic Way Extension past Trinity Way (first real street on the left) to Orchid Lane (second street on the left) and turn left. **4).** Proceed on Orchid Lane up the hill and to the right to the greenhouses. From the NORTH, exit Hwy 101 at Grand Avenue and turn left onto Grand Avenue. Get into the right lane which will route you onto Traffic Way Proceed on Traffic Way past the stop sign at Fair Oaks. Just past the Mobile gas station on the left, turn left onto Traffic Way Extension. Proceed as noted in #3 & 4 above.

This will be a joint meeting with the Santa Maria Orchid Society and you are invited to bring along some lunch type food to share and we will have a picnic at the nursery. The Santa Maria Orchid Society will be providing 2 buckets of chicken. Please bring a dish to share such as chips & dip, veggies & dip, salads, desserts, etc. Bring along you utensils and something to drink. **Parking is very limited, so carpooling is advised.**

April meeting notes

At our April meeting we hosted Jim Sloniker a certified American Orchid Society judge. Jim filed us in on what judges look for when judging an orchid and what to expect at the new AOS judging center that will be opened in Santa Barbara. He suggested cleaning the pot and leaves and trimming off all old leaves and blooms. Stake the blooms as they are developing so they will be presented well when they open and hopefully be evenly spaced around the plant. The judges factor in the type and breeding of each orchid but hope to see full and round blooms except in

instances where the parents do not have that shape. He talked about the AOS judging form which is a guideline for the point scores that are given to judged orchids. They want to see symmetrically shaped blooms when

visually cut down the center. He also mentioned that if the parents have a high flower count then the hybrid should also have a high flower count.

Five Cities Orchid Society
P.O. Box 1066
Grover Beach, CA 93483-1066

Orchid Calendar

Dates	Event	Location	Comments
Thursday, May 8 7:30 PM	FCOS Monthly Meeting	AG Women's Club, Arroyo Grande	Christina and Eric Holenda will present slides of their March 2007 trip to Borneo. their program will also cover native culture and wildlife, including elephants, orangutans, pythons, etc., plus photos of <i>Rafflesia</i> , the world's largest flower.
May 3-4 (Saturday and Sunday)	Carmel Orchid Society MayFaire Orchid Show and Sale	American Tin Cannery, 125 Ocean View Blvd, Pacific Grove, CA	Across from the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Open 9am-5pm on Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sunday. Free admission. More info at their website www.carmelorchidsociety.org .
May 9-11 (Friday through Sunday) Mother's Day Weekend	Orchid Society of California Orchid Sale	Lakeside Garden Center (Lake Merritt), 666 Bellevue, Oakland, CA	Potting Demos, Plant Doctor, Educational Display. Free Admission. Friday noon-6pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am-5pm. More info at www.OrchidSocietyofCalifornia.com .
May 17-18 (Saturday and Sunday)	Petite Plaisance Orchid Nursery Closing sale	1177 Valley Ford-Freestone Rd., Sonoma County	Due to the recent death of co-owner Ron Ehlers, business partner Jim Hamilton has decided to close the nursery and is selling all orchids, greenhouse equipment and supplies. Plants will be reasonable prices. They specialized in cool and intermediate growing orchids.