



November 2007 Newsletter

<u>Affiliations</u> American Orchid Society The Orchid Digest	<u>Proud Supporter of</u> 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 on November 8 starting at 7:30PM. There will not be an ORCHIDS 101 that evening.

At great expense the Five Cities Orchid Society will present one of the premiere speakers in today's orchid world. George Vasquez of Zuma Canyon Orchids, Malibu, has been an American Orchid Society judge for 30 years, and AOS executive secretary for 17 years. He has given talks at four World Orchid Conferences and in 30 foreign countries. His plants have received a staggering 600 AOS awards. In spite of his lofty achievements, George is down-to-earth -- his topic will be showing you how you can grow *Phalaenopsis* better IN YOUR GROWING SITUATION. He has asked that we bring in our healthy and/or ill *Phalaenopsis* for analysis and discussion.

The plant table will feature Zuma Canyon's finest *Phalaenopsis*, 40 -50 plants, at least half in flower or spike. These plants would easily retail for more than \$500, an excellent opportunity to pick up these orchids easily grown as houseplants. BRING LOTS OF MONEY, and go home with some new beautiful orchids! Eric has heard George speak before, and can confidently say if you only come to one meeting a year, THIS IS THE ONE TO COME TO!

We will be hosting George for dinner at 5:15 at the Quarterdeck in AG. Call Eric at 929-5749 if you would like to join in.

NOTE from the Treasurer – Christina Holenda

Christina would like to remind all past members and any one else that would like to join FCOS that **DUES ARE DUE**, if you have not already paid Please send in your \$20.00 dues to FCOS PO box 1066, Grover Beach, Ca 93483...every bit helps. Our web site expenses and postage fees went up as costs in general are up. Thank you for keeping our club viable!!

President Corner – Danny Stocks

This month's message is about thank you's. I need to thank many of our members this month. Let's start with the meeting. Thank you Eric and Christina for speaking to us about your trip to Borneo. We are certainly fortunate to have you in our club. Someday I would like to see Borneo myself. The slide show was excellent. Thank you Alice for coordinating the refreshments. It is great to have you back Bruce, thank you for running the raffle. Barb thank you for the new nametags. Peggy thank you for signing our members. Chris thank you helping where ever it is needed. There is one more thank you I would like to hand out but no one has

offered to do it. That is a thank you for taking over Orchids 101. There will not be an Orchids 101 this month. I feel it is a great part of our meetings and am still looking for someone to take over asking one of our members to give a short 15 minute lecture on basic orchid care at the beginning of the meetings. One last note about the meeting. Peggy won a plant in the raffle after a 5-month drought. Congratulations.

I would like to thank everyone that put in suggestions for this year's show theme. As everyone knows that attended the October meeting this years show theme is Orchids Carnivale. Congratulations to Laurie Vierheilg for submitting the winning theme and winning a \$50 gift certificate to SLO Gardens. A huge thank you to Rudy for your continuing generosity in supporting our club. For our new members and to remind our old (Seasoned) members Rudy owns SLO Gardens in Arroyo Grande. He continually supports us with donations of gift certificates and plants. Please support him by visiting his nursery. I do not know one person in the club that couldn't use one more orchid. Just one more.

The show committee met and the show will be upon us in no time. The dates are March 7, 8 and 9. Keep those dates open. The show has been an annual success because of all the help we, the members of the club, put in. This year will be no exception. Peggy is already looking for and accepting donations for door and raffle prizes. We are going to need everyone's help putting up flyers and posters.

For everyone that missed the greenhouse tours and barbecue, you really missed a good time. Thank you Larry, Richard, and Eric for letting us into your greenhouses. It sounds easy to let people come see your greenhouse but I am sure they put a lot of work into them before they let us in. Even though the greenhouses were all different they did have several things in common. They all had controlled humidity, RO water and under bench heat. Could these be the keys to successful orchid growing? The other thing they all had were beautiful orchids. Thank you Eric and Christina for opening your home to us. Again, it sounds easy to let people come to your house but there is a lot of work to get it ready. We appreciate the effort. It was a beautiful afternoon, perfect for a barbecue. Thank you Larry for Barbecuing. He had three Webber's going at once.

Lastly, thank you Chris for putting the newsletter together each month.

As you can see there is a long list of thank you's for this month. Our club is successful because of the participation of its members. If I have forgotten anyone let me apologize now.

It is not my intent to forget about anyone. I want everyone to enjoy the Five Cities Orchid Society as much as I do. Thank you for letting me be the president. Aloha, Danny

Summary of the October meeting presentation

Eric and Christina Holenda made a presentation on their recent trip to Borneo this last February- March. If you were not there you missed a great slide show of the orchids, other plants, the countryside and people of this 3rd largest island on Earth. Christina was especially excited with the *Nepentes* (carnivorous plants) that grow wild in Bornea. There is a

recovery program for slipper orchids that only grow on the island. *Paph. sanderianum* grows wild there on sheer rock faces with its roots growing into cracks in the rocks. The soil is generally shallow and poor with an underlying layer of limestone. They saw many large *Grammophyllum* growing in the trees along the river. They got to stay in the longhouses of the local Eban people that used to be known for their extended ear lobes. They saw a number of areas that are threatened by man's influences.

Five Cities Orchid Society
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Grover Beach, CA 93483-1066

Orchid Calendar

Dates	Event	Location	Comments
Thursday, November 8 7:30 PM	FCOS Monthly Meeting	AG Woman's Club 211 Vernon Street Arroyo Grande	George Vasquez of Zuma Canyon Orchids, Malibu will talk to us about how you can grow <i>Phalaenopsis</i> better IN YOUR GROWING SITUATION. Eric guarantees that we will all learn something from this dynamic speaker. NO ORCHIDS 101.
Sat & Sun November 3 & 4, 2007	SBOE Fall Open House	1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93111	Saturday 8AM-5PM & Sunday 9AM-4PM. More info at http://www.sborchid.com/index.php . Lots of plants for Sale
Fri- Sun Nov. 2-4	Hatfield Orchids Open House	3793 Dufau Road, Oxnard, CA	From 10 a.m. to 3:30p.m. Lots of seedlings that we have to offer are some of the finest <i>Cymbidium</i> hybrids in the World!
Sat & Sun, January 5-6, 2008,10am-5pm each day	Peninsula OS Annual Show and Sale	Community Activity Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave, Redwood City, CA	Admission \$5, Seniors \$3 and children and disabled folks are no charge. 10 vendors. More info at http://penorchidsos.org .