



# September 2011 Newsletter

<b><u>Affiliations</u></b> American Orchid Society The Orchid Digest	<b><u>Proud Supporter of</u></b> 5 Cities Homeless Coalition
<b>President: Chris Ehrler</b>	<b>Vice President: Danny Stocks</b>
<b>Secretary: Anne Bachmann</b>	<b>Treasurer: Christina Holenda</b>

## **Our Next Meeting (Danny Stocks)**

September's speaker will be Angelic Nguyen who has 30 years experience as a silk painting artist, embroidery instructor, designer, graphic artist at the San Jose Mercury News and currently owns an orchid nursery named Orchid Design. She grew up with orchids and tropical flowers around her hometown near Saigon, Vietnam where the Vandas, Phalanopsis, and Paphiopedilums grow crazy in the rain forest. Orchids, her passion, showed up in her paintings, dresses, pictures and designs. She spent many years exploring how to put the orchids' soul in her artwork.

Angelic first started with some Cattleyas and Phalanopsis inside her house. Dave, her husband, built a little greenhouse for her 38th birthday gift. Angelic took good care of her orchids and her collection quickly expanded. Her first Vanda, Princess Mikasa Blue, bloomed about 3 months after she got the greenhouse. She learned how to grow different kind of orchids and the greenhouse, now is five times its original size, is almost full with thousands of Laelias, Cattleyas (her favorite), Phalanopsis, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Paphs, Phrags, Lycastes, Bulbophyllums, Vandas, hybrids and species from warm to cool growing orchids.

Angelic got serious with Cymbidiums when she didn't have any more room in the greenhouse and, carefully choosing plants to grow, she ended up with a couple thousand Cymbidiums—standard, pendulous and peloric. Dave and Nikita (Angelic's son) helped with most of the building, dividing, potting her orchids. Finally, Angelic and Nikita have been playing around with hybridizing, mixing color on some of their Cymbidiums and Laelias, and now they have to make some more room for their seedlings ready to pop out from the flasks. Angelic, Dave, and Nikita enjoy finding different orchids blooming in their garden every day.

They are working together to set up a design and printing shop at their house. They have produced many postcards, brochures, flyers, catalogs, show display and newsletters and are involved in many activities to help orchid societies around the Bay Area improve in different ways. She was also an Art Director for the Cymbidium Society of America Journal in 2006. This magazine goes from America to Australia, Japan, New Zealand and around the world. She had saved the CSA Journal during a difficult time with no volunteer help. From A-Z she made it become one of the best orchid magazines in the U.S.

Currently, Angelic is a full time orchid grower. You can visit her website [www.ORCHIDesign.com](http://www.ORCHIDesign.com) to find out what she is growing

and don't hesitate to give her a call to ask about something you would love to have. Also, Angelic will bring a valuable raffle table to the September meeting. Save your time and money to get some of her rare, beautiful species and hybrid orchids you never see in the market.

## **August Meeting Summary (Chris Ehrler)**

Dan Newman was our guest speaker at FCOS's August meeting. He spoke about "Miniature Orchids – Nature's Small Wonders". Dan owns Hanging Gardens which is located on Highway 1 in Pacifica, CA. He specializes in growing mainly orchid species and some select hybrids that will grow in cool to intermediate conditions. If you want to make arrangement to visit his greenhouse, his phone is 415-305-8355 and his email is [hgardens@earthlink.net](mailto:hgardens@earthlink.net). He stated that there are a variety of definitions of miniature orchids but he likes to considerate those whose leaves and blooms are less than about 6-8 inches in overall height. Dan said that their culture is similar to larger orchids, but miniatures generally have a smaller storage reserve so you need to be more careful for moisture and also for pests. He also recommends that if you are growing both miniatures and larger potted orchids that you put the smaller pots near the front of the bench so that you do not miss them when you are watering. Dan's slide show consisted of orchid photos from over 60 different genera. For many of the genera there were photos of multiple species which are considered miniatures.

## **President's Message (Chris Ehrler)**

I hope your orchids are blooming well and that you have had to transplant all your orchids that needed it. I am still behind in transplanting and bet I am not the only one in that situation. But remember that if the media you are growing your orchids in has broken down, your orchids will suffer. The orchids might not show initial signs of this for awhile but do not be afraid of pulling the roots and media out of the pot and seeing how the roots and media look. If the roots are small and black and the media looks like mud, it is past time to transplant.

If you missed the August meeting, you missed a great slide show and the opportunity to purchase some unusual orchid species from Dan Newman. If you are going to be in the San Francisco area, I suggest you schedule a visit to his greenhouse. I have been there many times and am always amazed at the large selection of cool and intermediate orchids he has that I have not seen anywhere else.

Well the show committee has decided that the theme for our 2012 orchid show will be "Stepping back in Time". There will be the

Friday Night Preview on March 30 and then the show will take place on Saturday March 31 and Sunday April 1. Plan to be in town and help with the fun and festivities.

It is never too early to start saving and growing some orchids to donate to the December silent auction. If you have divided your orchids and want to make room for other new ones, set the extras in a separate place and remember you can bring them in December and let someone else be the new parent of your extra orchids. Then you will have room to get a new orchid for your growing area. Also, if you have orchids that are not growing well for you, it might be you do not have the correct conditions for that plant and by donating it to the auction someone else might be able to bring it back to a healthier state. I hope to see you at the September meeting.

**Upcoming Events**

***September 17-18<sup>th</sup> Orchids in the Park***

County Fair Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Lincoln Way, San Francisco  
 10 AM - 5 PM Admission \$4, Seniors \$3, Children under 16 free  
 Demonstrations, Lectures, Raffles  
 email: [info@orchidsanfrancisco.org](mailto:info@orchidsanfrancisco.org)

A special raffle offered by the San Francisco Orchid Society , a 501(c)3 organization. Actually, 3 separate raffles, each featuring a fabulous, rare, and highly collectible orchid (Phragmipedium kovachii, Cymbidium elegans and Dracula Raven and an assortment of orchid related supplies (e.g. books, pots, baskets, potting media). Each prize has a value of well over \$200. Tickets

\$5 each or 5 for \$20. Only 300 tickets will be sold for each prize, and tickets only available at San Francisco Orchid Society meetings (Tuesday Aug 2, and Tuesday Sept 6, OR at Orchids in the Park (Sept 17-18, Hall of Flowers San Francisco) OR through the Razzle Dazzle Raffle committee representative ([razzledazzle@orchidsanfrancisco.org](mailto:razzledazzle@orchidsanfrancisco.org)). Drawing is Sept 18, noon at Orchids in the Park. Winner need not be present.

***September 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Fascination of Orchids Show & Sale-***

South Coast Plaza Village, 1631 W Sunflower, Santa Ana, 10 am to 5 pm About 20 vendors from: California, Hawaii, Asia, Central and South America will be exhibiting and selling thousands of exotic orchids.

***September 30, October 1, 2 San Diego Int'l Orchid Fair***

- 17th Annual Orchid Show and Orchid Sale . An AOS sanctioned judging event with 25 vendors and ongoing lectures on culture and care and there will be ribbon judging as well. Exhibition Hall, San Diego County Fairgrounds. To register your plants for judging bring them on Thursday, September 30, 2 - 7 pm and Friday, October 1, 7 - 9 am.

***November 26<sup>th</sup>—27<sup>th</sup> Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Annual Fall Show***

Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. (More Information on this event forthcoming)

**2011 Orchid Calendar**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Sept 8	FCOS monthly meeting	Arroyo Grande Women's Club	7:30 PM
Sept 17-18	Orchids in the Park	County Fair Bldg., 9 <sup>th</sup> & Lincoln, San Francisco	10-5 PM Admission \$3, Senior \$3, Children under 16 free
Sept 25-26	Fascination of Orchids Show & Sale	South Coast Plaza - 1631 W Sunflower, Santa Ana	10-5PM
Sept 30-Oct 1-2	San Diego Int'l Orchid Show	San Diego County Fairgrounds	Sept 30 PM; Oct. 1-2 7-9 PM
Nov 26-27	Santa Barbara Annual Fall Show	Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History	