



August 2010 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
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Newsletter Editor: Anne Bachmann	

Our Next Meeting (Eric Holenda)

Our August program will be a slide presentation on cool growing orchids in the Oncidium Alliance put together by Helmut Rohl. I haven't seen the program so I don't know what to expect. It will be a surprise for all of us. Guaranteed, if it's not entertaining we'll make it so. There will be no speaker's dinner this month.

As of this writing, I still haven't received many suggestions for themes for next year's show. If you receive this by Monday, August 9, I am still accepting ideas until then. Email me at cbh@charter.net. The chosen theme and winner of the \$50 gift certificate will be announced at the meeting.

July Meeting Summary (Chris Ehrler)

FCOS was fortunate to be able to host Rudolf Jenny at their July 2010 meeting. Dr. Jenny who lives in Switzerland was on a speaking engagement from San Francisco to Santa Barbara and Los Angeles and his travels just happened to put him in our area on our regular meeting night. Rudolf has just completed publishing his book titled "The Stanhopea Book". He stated that when it came to naming orchids he used to be a splitter (thought there were many species based mainly on color variation) but is now a lumpner (thinks there are fewer species than there are names). He suggested that although there are about 650 names for different Stanhopeas there are probably only 60 species in this genus at the maximum. He showed a number of Powerpoint slides that showed a variety of color variations within one species, with each photo having historically been called a different species. He considers himself a taxonomist and is currently not even growing any orchids, although he has in the past. In his presentation he showed many photos of the different genera that make up the Subtribe Stanhopeinae. He stated that most of these groups have flowers that produce an odor that can be considered somewhere

between fragrant to stinky. He showed lots of slides even ones of a couple of genera that only had a single species. There is even a genus named Jennyella (he did not name it) that he says does not have nice looking flowers.

President's Message (Danny Stocks)

A few years back when I first got the orchid bug everything was new and exciting. Really did not know how to grow orchids, just knew I really liked the flowers and wanted to try to grow them. Looking back now, I can see how much I really didn't know. At first, it was buying pretty much anything I could get my hands on. I was buying plants on the internet that were advertised as almost blooming size and thought that meant they would bloom shortly. What that really means is they are a little larger than seedlings and will bloom in several years if you can keep them alive. Most of the time I would see pictures of beautiful or unusual flowers and think, I want one of those. What I got was a bunch of small plants. Over time the memories of the pictures of the flowers have faded. The plants just keep on growing. Okay some of them grew, many of them died. This last year many of those small plants have begun to bloom. Pretty much every time I go outside or into the greenhouse there is a new spike on something. It is like Christmas all the time. It is not like having a garden where everything is in bloom at once. It is just a few at a time, like two or three. Even my wife, who really says she is not into orchids, can't wait to show me what has popped up while I have been at work. The joy that growing orchids, or rather blooming orchids, brings me is immense. Anything I can do as club president to help bring that joy to you please, let me know. The more I learn the more I realize how much I don't know, but what I do know I am more than willing to share.

Here is a tip: This is the time of year that cymbidiums are growing fast. Keep pumping the fertilizer to them.

The more growth you can get on them now the more you will be rewarded with spikes of flowers this coming winter. I may be a little selfish on that because they will be blooming just in time for our show.

I am looking forward to our next meeting. Please come. The more people we have at the meetings the more fun they are. See you all there.

Upcoming Events

August 7th

Speaker's Day

9 am to 5 pm; Odd fellow's Building, 1831 Howe Ave at Alta Arden, Sacramento, Ca. 95838. Featuring:

Glen Decker - Piping Rock Orchids *Phragmipedium kovachii*, breeding & culture;

Ron McHatton – Director of Education for the American Orchid Society, subject to be announced;

Marguerite Webb - J&L Orchids Species culture for home, lights and greenhouse.

General admission is \$15.

September 11th – 12th

San Francisco Orchid Society's Fall Sale 2010 Orchids in the Park

Gallery, SF County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers); Saturday September 11th 10 am - 5 pm; Sunday September 12th 10 am - 5 pm; Admission: \$ 3.00. For more information: www.orchidsanfrancisco.org or

(415) 665-2468

September 25th

Coastal Valley Orchid Society's Fourth Annual 2010 Orchid Expo

This year's event will be held in the Grossman Gallery of the Lompoc Public Library; Saturday, 10 am – 4 pm; AOS Judging open to the public begins at Noon; This year's theme is '***Orchids 101***'. Come see surrounding Central Coast Orchid Society displays, local grower displays how to grow outdoors, on a window sill, and in a greenhouse. Orchids for Sale by Central Coast Orchid Nurseries and Societies. Potting and mounting demonstration at 12 pm and 2 pm. Orchid Artwork on display as well. Admission is FREE!

November 27th – 28th

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Fall Show and Sale!

To be held at the Museum of Natural History in Santa Barbara. This year's theme is "***Orchids Run Amok***". More information coming on this year's event.

Orchid Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Comments
Aug 12, 10	FCOS monthly meeting	Arroyo Grande Women's Club	07:30:00 PM
Aug 7, 10	Speaker's Day	Odd fellow's Building, 1831 Howe Ave at Alta Arden, Sacramento	9-5 pm - More information above.
Sep 11, 12	San Francisco Orchid Society's Fall Sale 2010 Orchids in the Park	SF County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers)	10-5 pm - More information above
Sep 25, 10	Central Valley Orchid Society Orchid Expo & Sale	Lompoc Public Library the Grossman Gallery	10-4 PM Admission free. For info: 805-736-3020 or Eileen Whitty 733-2073
Nov 27, 28	Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Fall Show	Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History	