



May 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)

SPECIAL MEETING -- BEGINNER'S NIGHT ORCHID CARE CLINIC

Our regular meeting will be devoted entirely to orchid help for the novice grower. This includes new members and those of you who signed up at the Show to receive the email newsletter. New folks (and regular members), bring in plants you wonder how to care for or that need repotting and we will help you get the job done properly. We will supply the potting mix, etc. -- just bring in the pot you wish to use. We will also try to answer any and all questions about orchid growing. We probably won't have a plant table for this informal evening, but do bring blooming Show and Tell plants.

So, our regular meeting will be a special meeting. However, in addition to our regular meeting on May 13 we will also have a SPECIAL meeting this month, a joint meeting with Cabrillo Orchid Society on May 18. The Guest Speaker will be Harry Phillips of Andy's Orchids in Encinitas, Ca. Andy, Harry's brother, has collected what is probably the widest variety of orchid species in the world and has done exhaustive trial and error experimenting to find the best way to grow each species. The vast majority of their plants are grown mounted, rather than potted, they would be found in nature. Harry will be bringing an extra large plant table to accommodate both clubs. Also, if you wish to ***pre-order*** plants, you will get 10% off. Go online to get their catalog.

Joint FCOS - Cabrillo meeting
Tuesday, May 18, 7:00 pm,
Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Grand and Monterey, SLO

Dinner w/ Harry before, 5:30, Apple Farm Restaurant
Reservations - call Ardith 438 - 5441

As good guests we should bring some treats to share -- call Alice (481-1689) to volunteer.

In summary, this month we have a special regular meeting and a SPECIAL meeting. If you are confused, just show up at the usual time, second Thursday, May 13 at 7:30pm.

April Meeting Summary (Chris Ehrler)

FCOS was pleased to have Tony Velardi as their April speaker. Tony talked and showed pendulous cymbidiums. Tony, has been

growing since 1969 and his backyard hybridizing has produced a number of delightful pendulous cymbidiums, including the 2007 Santa Barbara show Grand Champ, Cymbidium Geno's Gem 'Emerald Fire.' Tony is a retired CSA judge, past head of the CSA Judging Region, and past president of the San Gabriel Branch of the CSA. His hybrids can be found at Mariposa Gardens. In the wild, cymbidiums growing in a number of different habitats and thus the conditions they can grow in are varied. He showed slides of a number of different species and discussed how each can affect hybrids. When breeding, he has found that 4N parents have more influence on hybrids than do 2N parents, and 3 N plants are sterile when it comes to hybridizing. Cymbidiums with the species devonianum in its breeding history will die if you use water with high dissolved solids (hard water like we have on the central coast). He uses 20-20-20 fertilizer at about 1/8 teaspoon per gallon but fertilizes every time he waters. He adds 1/4 teaspoon Nutricote (a time released fertilizer) in each pot when he transplants. He usually plants in medium bark, #3 perlite about in equal amounts, plus some small bark and shredded coconut. He says you can grow them in marbles if you water them enough.

Upcoming Events

The 30th Santa Barbara Orchid Estate International Orchid Fair
Friday July 9 & Saturday July 10, 2010, 9 AM to 5 PM-- Sunday July 11, 2010, 10 AM to 4 PM

More than thirty vendors from around the world, selling orchids, sharing their orchid expertise and telling tall tales about the orchid world. Guest author Rudolf Jenny chatting with visitors and selling his new *Stanhopea* book. Public AOS judging on Friday. Enjoy the sights and smells of the summer blooming orchids offered by Fair vendors. Potting and mounting demonstrations by the staff of Santa Barbara Orchid Estate. Held outdoors under shadecloth and canopies on the central lawn of Earl Warren Showgrounds at Highway 101 and Las Positas Roads. Admission is free, parking is \$5.

Public American Orchid Society judging Friday at 1:00 PM. Observe how AOS judges screen and evaluate plants for awards. Literature about AOS awards and becoming an AOS judge will be available. Society members may bring superior blooming plants to be considered for judging. Just bring the plants in stable containers and register the plants by noon Friday. Following judging, plants can be left on display but must be picked up by 5 PM Friday. AOS judges and clerks

are invited to participate. The judging chair is Bryce Augustine, moflo@cox.net

Dr. Jenny speaks Friday night at Special Joint Meeting of the Santa Barbara Cymbidium Society and the Orchid Society of Santa Barbara. Friday July 9, 7:30 PM Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De la Vina Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. Dr. Rudolf Jenny will speak on *Stanhopeas*. This free talk is open to the public, especially members of other orchid societies. Maps will be available at the Fair Information booth. Those interested in attending a Speaker's dinner prior to the meeting may contact the Fair Manager, Gene Baum, at gborchids@verizon.net for reservations.

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House. Friday & Saturday July 9 & 10, 8 AM to 5 PM; Sunday July 11, 9 AM to 4 PM. Held

concurrently with the Fair, but at the nursery, this event features scads of summer blooming *Encyclias*, *Brazilian Laelias*, and *Sobralias*. Don't miss the baskets full of fragrant downward-blooming super-scary *Stanhopeas*. Of course we will have the \$7.50 specials of selected seedlings and bare-roots. Wayne sets out a whole bench of sprouted cymbidium backbulbs arranged in roughly alphabetical order. Questions? Visit www.sborchid.com, call us at (800) 553-3387 or e-mail us at sboe@sborchid.com

Orchid Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Comments
05/13/10	FCOS monthly meeting	Arroyo Grande Women's Club	07:30:00 PM
05/18/10	Joint Cabrillo Orchid Society meeting	Veteran's Memorial Bldg. Grand & Monterey San Luis Obispo	07:00:00 PM
June 4, 5, & 6	San Jose Orchid Exposition	Miraido Club House S.J. Japantown	AOS judging on Friday evening for those interested in having their plants judged.
July 10 & 11	Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Show	Earl Warren Showgrounds Santa Barbara Fair Grounds	For more info: www.orchidfair.com (800) 553-3387