

President John Reyes
1st Vice Pres. John McCoy
2nd Vice Pres. Open
Secretary Marylyn Paulsen
Membership Marilyn Wallan
Treasurer Elaine Murphy
Auction John McCoy
Ribbon Judging Bill MacCorkell
Hospitality Open
Newsletter Russ Nichols
Website John McCoy
Library Open



Regular Meeting Schedule
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Table/chair setup, plants in place
Ribbon judging starts at 7:00 pm
Culture session
Speaker starts at 7:30 pm
Opportunity drawing
Table/chair teardown
Doors close at 9:30 pm

South Coast Orchid Society

73 Years of Orchid Excellence

Newsletter

Founded in 1950

January 2024

Searching for Blue **by Scott McGregor** **Monday, January 22, 2024**

Scott McGregor will present "Searching for Blue", the story of the quest for blue orchids. Blue orchids have a mystique—exotic, rare and unobtainable. They are an object of desire for books, movies, perfumes and much more. Scott will explore the lore of blue orchids (including those beloved by orchid growers, that other people say are just purple), delve into the biology of human color perception, expose many "blue orchids" as fakes, share a few that are actually blue, and talk about breeding possibilities with DNA modification for blue pigments .

Scott grows his orchids around his house in San Clemente and in a custom shade house fitted out with automated watering adjustable from his cell phone.

See the next page below, as Scott has provide three pictures to whet your appetite for blue orchids.

President's Message

We had a great Christmas dinner, and thanks are due all who contributed to making this an enjoyable event. Now, we have passed through the reentry stage and this year should be back to the full slate of activities and opportunities inherant in the operation of an orchid society. I look forward to everyone attending our monthly meetings and getting excited about seeing and talking to other orchid growers without the overhanging fear of social distancing, cancelled meeting spaces, or actually coming down with a really nasty respiratory ailment. Lets think positive for the new year. See you all at the meeing to enjoy the presentation by Scott McGregor.

John Reyes
President, SCOS

Orchids Discovered in the Quest for Blue



Ophrys iricolor

Ophrys iricolor is one of the Bee Orchids of Europe. It requires a shady location and cooler temperatures, and it blooms in late winter to spring.



Cleisocentron species

This yet-to-be-identified Cleisocentron species is similar to Cleisocentron merrillianum, which grows in Sabah, Borneo from about 1100 to 3000 meters in cool upper montane forests.



Thelymitra crinita

Thelymitra crinita is a terrestrial orchid that comes from south western Australia at elevation from sea level to about 350 meters, in coastal forests and woodlands. It likes temperatures on the cool to cold side, with bright sunlight. It blooms in Spring.

ORCHID NEWS

Our ever-on-the-go Vice President, John McCoy is working on a presentation of material for the SCOS website based on a collection of 2,655 color slides from the family of Kay Francis. Kay was an active orchid growing and breeder, and created Lc. Prism Palette along with numerous other grexes, which she would distribute to Rod McLellan, Stewart's, Frank Fordyce, etc. This current work-in-progress should be a delight for all. Stay tuned.

As we start 2024, we are much closer to being back to the fully functional orchid society we were before COVID19. That said, not all members are coming out to the meetings, and we probably need new members to fill out the organizational duties. Any friends eager to learn about orchids, recruit them. Any interest in getting more involved, see one of our current officers (listed at the top of this newsletter).

Member's Orchids



Cattleya percivaliana 'Summit' FCC/AOS grown by Russ Nichols



Cattleya percivaliana 'Merrill' AM/AOS grown by Russ Nichols



Maxillaria ubatubana grown by John McCoy. Ubatuba is south-west of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



Laelia anceps grown by John McCoy



Possibly *Laelia anceps*, though might be one of its many hybrids; grown by John McCoy



Laelia Lucy Ingram (*L. perrinii* x *L. purpurata*) grown by Russ Nichols



Laelia autumnalis grown by John McCoy (outdoors and mounted, as are his other orchids herein)

Upcoming Events.

See our website for flyers: www.southcoastorchidsociety.com.

San Diego County OS Orchids in the Park, Balboa Park, January 27 (12-5) - 28 (10-4)

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, Earl Warren Showgrounds, March 8-10, 2024

South Bay OS Spring Show and Sale, Palos Verdes Art Center, March 16-17

Meeting Location

The **South Coast Orchid Society** holds monthly meetings, usually on the fourth Monday of the calendar month, at the Whaley Park Community Center in Long Beach, CA. Whaley Park is on Atherton, just off Bellflower Blvd. near the Long Beach State University campus.

Vendor Sponsors

The South Coast Orchid Society thanks these commercial vendors for their generosity and support of our continuing Annual Auction and other events helping to carry us through the last year. If you need supplies or want to shop for orchids, please consider these vendors first. They helped us, maybe we can help them, and get some great orchids too!

Agdia Elkhart, IN (800) 622-4342 www.agdia.com	Andy's Orchids Encinitas, CA (888) 514-2639 www.andysorchids.com
Cal-Orchid Santa Barbara, CA (805) 967-1312 www.calorchid.com	Casa de Las Orquideas Solana Beach, CA (858) 755-7572 www.orquideas.com
Diamond Orchids Diamond Bar, CA minicatt@yahoo.com	Flori Culture Carmichael, CA (800) 301-9009 www.flori-culture.com
Gallup & Stribling Carpinteria, CA (805) 684-1998 www.gallup-stribling.com	Greencoast Hydroponics Long Beach, CA (562) 627-5636 gchydro.com
Gublers Orchids Landers, CA (760) 364-2282 www.Gublerorchids.com	Konishi Plumeria Cypress, CA 714-826-2373
Mariposa Gardens Lakewood, CA (562) 920-5588 www.mariposagarden.com	Mundi Flora Cuenca, Ecuador 593(0)999310067 www.mundiflora.com
Orange County Farm Supply Orange, CA (714) 978-6500 www.ocfarmssupply.com	Orchids Royale Carpinteria, CA (805) 684-8066
Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Santa Barbara, CA (800) 553-3387 www.sborchid.com	Sorella Orchids Camarillo, CA (360) 607-9342
Sunset Valley Orchids Vista, CA (760) 639-6255 www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com	Westerlay Orchids Carpinteria, CA (805) 684-5411 www.westerlayorchids.com