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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

74 Years of Orchid Excellence

Newsletter

Founded in 1950

February 2024

Five Favorite Dendrobiums

by Douglas Overstreet

Monday, February 26, 2024

The genus *Dendrobium* includes at least 1600 known species of orchids found in nature mostly in Southeast Asia, but extending all the way from Japan to India and Australia. They come from a wide range of habitats, from frosty mountains to steamy tropical jungles. Some grow happily in Southern California gardens, others are seen mounted on tree fern trunks in Hawaii, and a few turn up at this time of year at grocery and home improvement stores. Doug will present an introduction to a few of the *Dendrobiums* that are likely to thrive in our area, with some background about the country of origin and overall habitat, history in cultivation, and cultural notes. It's usually easy to know that an orchid is a *Dendrobium* from the structure of the flowers, a good starting point for the beginner! Some of the cold-tolerant *Dendrobiums* are blooming right now, so there should be a selection from members' gardens on display at our meeting.

(Note: *Dendrobiums*, mostly nobile hybrids, have turned up at some local stores! On the next page is a picture of one at Lowe's, proof that *Dendrobiums* are in the mass market, at least at this time of year.)

President's Message

Scott McGregor got our new year started with a thoroughly informative discussion of the search for blue color in orchids. As we followed along, Scott described what makes an orchid appear blue to the human eye, and how we are being challenged by technology to find and cultivate a truly blue orchid.

This month Douglas Overstreet explains everything we need to know (history, culture, and tips for success) about a representative set of five of the many *Dendrobiums*. See you on the 26th.

John Reyes
President, SCOS

Dendrobium and Other Orchids Readily Available



Dendrobium, nobile type, at Lowe's



Oncidesa Gower Ramsey at Trader Joe's

SCOS Ribbon Judging Results And Photographs

Thanks to Bill MacCorkell for taking over the ribbon judging; thanks to Mong Noiboonsook, who photographed our orchids; and thanks to our members, who by displaying their orchids give life and meaning to our meetings.

	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Judges
Genus/category				
Points	5 pts	3 pts	1 pt	
Cattleya	Laelia endsfeldizii 'Susan's Sunshine' AM/AOS Russ Nichols	Lc. Florence Lin 'Diamond Orchids' Una Yeh	Pot. Mem. Timothy Kisson 'Exotic Orchids' Una Yeh	Dawn Dwyer
Cymbidium	Cym. sinense Una Yeh			Bill MacCorkell
Dendrobium	Darwinara Una Yeh	Den. NOID Una Yeh		Bill MacCorkell
Epidendrum				
Paphiopedilum	Paph. NOID John McCoy			Bill MacCorkell
Miscellaneous				
Novice				
Cultural Award 7 points	Laelia endsfeldizii 'Susan's Sunshine' AM/AOS Russ Nichols			Dawn Dwyer



Cymbidium sinense



Darwinara



Lc. Florence Lin 'Diamond Orchids'



Paph. (Mesmerized x Tiger Top)

Member's Orchids
All grown by John McCoy



Oncidium constrictum



Dendrobium aphyllum buds



Cyrtorchilum aureum



Bulbophyllum

AOS Awards Photographs

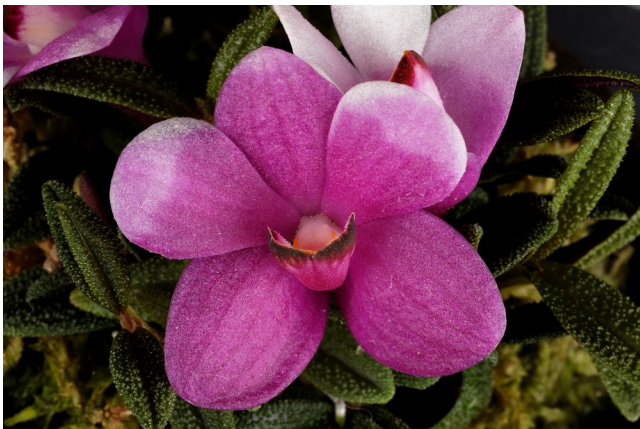
Many thanks to Arthur Pinkers for sharing his photographs with SCOS.



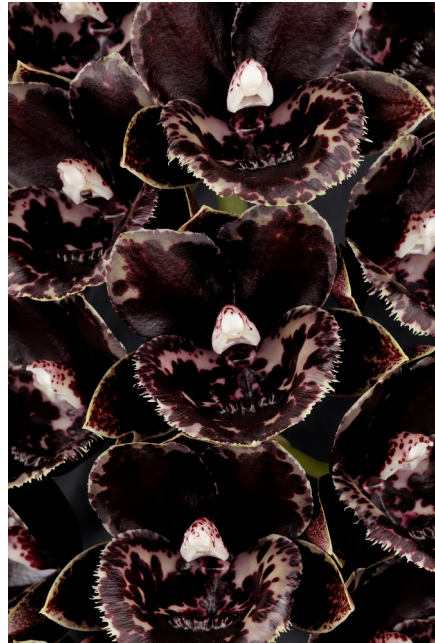
Pot. Beau Sunset 'Fuente' AM/AOS 11/23



Cym. kanran 'Xue Zhong Hong' AM/AOS
12/23



Den. cuthbertsonii 'Mika' HCC/AOS 12/23



Fred Clarkeara Doubtless 'SVO II'
AM/AOS 12/23



Fred Clarkeara Doubtless 'Sunset Valley
Orchids' AM/AOS 12/23



Blc. Ella Mangis 'My Precious' AM/AOS 12/23



Gomesa recurva 'JWB's Surprise' HCC/AOS 12/23



Ctsm. Memoria Dorothy Wells 'Sunset Valley Orchids' AM/AOS 12/23



Cattleya Measureseiana 'Bravo Orchids' AM/AOS 12/23



Cattleya (Sophronitis) wittigiana 'Pink Pearl' AM/AOS 12/23



Zygoneria Adelaide Meadows 'Sunset Valley Orchids' AM/AOS 12/23

About *Laelia endsfeldzii*

Never, in more than 30 years growing orchids, had I sought an AOS award. However, at some point, I began thinking my orchid adventures would not be complete without at least trying. So, not being the best of growers, I began to wonder which orchid might "make the grade." Would I need to grow and tend one or two "special" orchids, over a long time grooming them for their moment in the spotlight?

As it turned out, I just needed to bring one of my less common orchids into the SCOS meeting about a year ago, where a comment from one of the AOS judges led me to suspect it might be a worthy candidate. *L. endsfeldzii* (now *Cattleya endsfeldzii*) is one of the group of rupicolous laelias that grow in the crevices of rocky mountain tops in southern Brazil. The flowers are on the smaller side, and they need to stay warm in the winter, so they are less commonly grown. I had moved into the Inland Empire and needed a greenhouse to deal with the heat and cold; the result of that is that I had an environment that stayed warm throughout the year. These conditions turned out to be good for this orchid, purchased in 2010, and it began to grow and flower each year.

So, when seven flower "spikes" (racemes) began to grow late 2023, I had hopes. By January 2024 there were seven stalks of bright yellow flowers reaching toward the light.

I checked the AOS website, and found that few of this species had been awarded, and none with seven racemes. I found there was judging in the middle of January, and took my orchids to Yorba Linda, to the OCOS meeting and AOS judging, and it [*Cattleya endsfeldzii* 'Susan's Sunshine'] received an 81 point AM/AOS.

Carl Withner, in Vol. 2 of his series on "Cattleyas and Their Relatives" points out the species was recently discovered (1975) and dedicated by Guido Pabst to its discoverer, Waldir Endsfeldz, who found it growing in [the Brazilian state of] Minas Gerais near Itutinga. Dr. Withner classified it as Subgenus *Parviflorae*, Section *Parviflorae*, the poorest of the poor flowered Laelias, but the flowers are bright, cheery yellow and nearly two inches across. Not so bad at all.

Thanks to Arthur Pinkers for the high quality photographs on the next page, and thanks to Peter Lin, whose random comment a year ago resulted in my first AOS award.

~Russ Nichols~

My photo showing the bud, lip midlobe curl and slight bit of red in the throat.





Photos above and below by Arthur Pinkers



Upcoming Events.

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

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 auction and other events over the years. If you need supplies or want to shop for orchids, consider these vendors.

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