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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

Newsletter

Founded in 1950

January 2012

Guest Speaker: Daniel L. Geiger, PhD
Subject: Growing Orchids in a Terrarium
Monday, January 23, 2012

Daniel L. Geiger, PhD is a marine invertebrate systematist working on biodiversity and evolution of basal marine snails at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. His interests in plants come from natural history photography and gardening. He is a member of the Orchid Society of Santa Barbara, SCOSS, and the California Native Plant Society, and grows native California orchids outdoors. More recently he added an indoor terrarium with tropical orchids. Daniel can be reached at: Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Invertebrate Zoology, 2553 Puesta del Sol Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105 (email Geiger@vetigastropoda.com).

Growing orchids in a terrarium is similar to growing in a miniature greenhouse with artificial lights. Daniel will provide an overview of all aspects of planning, installation, and running a plant terrarium, with special emphasis on automatic control of environmental parameters (light, temperature, and moisture). The second half of his talk focuses on orchid species and their performance, with many pictures of a variety of morphologies.

In the January edition of Orchids, you can find Dr. Geiger's second article on this subject; his first article can be found at:

<http://www.vetigastropoda.com/abstracts/publications/poppapers.php>

Refreshments

Last names starting with **I through P** please bring refreshments.

President's Message

- **December Meeting:** We enjoyed a great Potluck Dinner in December. Many thanks to Maria and Marylyn for putting together a delightful combination of delicious dishes, and thanks to all who contributed to the meal. John and Larry not only entertained us, but also brought us professional support for our musical entertainment. Finally, we enjoyed a rousing game of pick-or-steal a gift.
- **Ribbon Judging Awards for 2011:** We have the final tally, and will soon distribute awards to the winners of our Ribbon Judging competition for 2011. Not surprisingly, our best growers displayed the excellent orchid growing traits of consistency and quality.
- **Early February NHOS Orchid Show in Westminster:** Again this year we plan to enter an exhibit in the NHOS display competition; if you have a plant that would support a winning display, ask one of our officers for information on the show.
- **Bye Bye:** This newsletter marks the last time I will be writing the President's Message after four years. I have enjoyed being the SCOS president, but it is time to pass the gavel. I would like to thank all the people who generously donated their time to make our society a success over these years. Thanks to all the officers, board members, and committee leaders of the society for carrying on the activities necessary to make the society a smoothly functioning organization. Thanks to all the volunteers, especially in connection with our annual auction, for pitching in when more help was needed. And thanks to all the members who brought in their plants for Ribbon Judging, sharing those magnificent flowers with the rest of us.

Russ Nichols

SCOS December 2011 Meeting

Great dishes, lively entertainment, and terrific friends marked our annual Christmas Potluck Dinner. We gathered at the usual time and place. Maria, though ill herself, showed up to assure everything was going as planned; Marylyn, ever diligent, finished off the hostess responsibilities. John and Larry, and John's sister and brother-in-law gave us a professional-quality concert. We had our annual gift exchange, and enjoyed watching as participants pondered whether to pick from the gifts unknown or take one already opened.

Christmas Potluck Dinner Photos

See photos online at: www.southcoastorchidsociety.com





New Year's Resolutions

The start of another year always gives me fresh resolve to "do it right." So, with that in mind, I resolve to pot or mount my *Laelia anceps* early in the year (some are already putting out new roots). I will repot cymbidiums at the start of spring, and repot *Laelia purpurata* nearer midyear. I resolve to throw out those pathetic, but treasured old plants with which I have so much history, the ones with barely a leaf left to provide nutrition, and those that have not flowered in the last five years. I promise to repot the plants at the back of the bench, the ones in which I may have lost interest, only to discover they were last potted in 2005! I promise to keep my plants properly shaded, to not throw them in some dark corner, or leave them out in the baking sunlight on a day we have Santa Ana winds. I will be resolute in my determination to keep my orchids watered, not too much and not too little; more for the small and recently planted pots, and less for plants in larger pots with older mixes. I swear I will remember that many, if not most, orchids respond slowly to changes in culture, and so avoid frantically changing from one culture strategy to the next. When flowers need staking, I will stake them. When scale, aphids, and mealy bugs attack, I will respond with an appropriate counterattack, either chemical sprays, hand treatment with alcohol and a cotton swab, or natural predators and repellants. Finally, I resolve to put aside some time to just enjoy my orchids, to wander among them and contemplate their wonderful flowers and odd growing habits, and to share the joy of these exotic plants with others.

Upcoming Events

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

Orange County Orchid Society Auction, Yorba Linda Public Library, January 18, 2012
Open House at the Rowland Collection, 12446 S Georgian St. Garden Grove, January 22, 2012
Newport Harbor Orchid Society Show and Sale, Westminster Mall, February 10-12, 2012
Pacific Orchid Exposition, Fort Mason, San Francisco, February 23-26, 2012
South Bay Orchid Society Show and Sale, Torrance Cultural Arts Center, March 3-4, 2012
Santa Barbara Orchid Show, Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara, March 16-18, 2012

Our February 2012 monthly meeting date is February 27, 2012

We wish to thank these commercial vendors for their generosity and support. Their generous donations to the South Coast Orchid Society have helped carry us through a successful 2011.

Andy's Orchids Encinitas, CA (888) 514-2639 www.andysorchids.com	Cal-Orchid Santa Barbara, CA (805) 967-1312 www.calorchid.com
Carter & Holmes Newberry, SC (803) 276-0579 www.carterandholmes.com	Ecuagenera Cuenca, Ecuador 011-593-7-2255-237 www.ecuagenera.com
Lance Birk Santa Barbara lance@lancebirk.com	LICO Orchids Encinitas, CA (760) 942-4143 or (760) 631-0228
Orange County Farm Supply Orange, CA (714) 978-6500 www.ocfarmssupply.com	Orchid Fever Culver City, CA (310) 559-6599
Paphanatics, Unlimited Orange, CA (714) 639-1387 www.paphanatics.com	Peter Lin Orchids Diamond Bar, CA
Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Santa Barbara, CA (800) 553-3387 www.sborchid.com	Seed Engei www.seed-engei.com
The Rowland Collection Garden Grove, CA (714) 892-3502	US Orchid Supplies Oxnard, CA (805) 247-0086 www.usorchidsupplies.com
Gallup & Stribling Carpinteria, CA (800) 222-7450 www.gallup-stribling.com	Hatfield Orchids Oxnard, CA (805) 644-8413 www.hatfieldorchids.com
Mariposa Gardens Lakewood, CA (562) 920-5588 www.mariposagarden.com	Oakhill Gardens Dundee, IL (847) 428-8500 www.oakhillgardens.com
Orchids Royale Carpinteria, CA (805) 684-8066	OrchidWiz Miami Shores, FL (305) 758-3596 www.orchidwiz.com
Piping Rock Orchids Galway, NY (518) 882-9002 www.pipingrockorchids.com	Pon's Plants Santa Ana, CA (714) 558-1967
Sunset Valley Orchids Vista, CA (760) 639-6255 www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com	The Plant Stand Costa Mesa, CA (800) 698-1077 www.plant-stand.com
Westerlay Orchids Carpinteria, CA (805) 684-5411 www.westerlayorchids.com	Wise Orchids Yorba Linda, CA (714) 524-1730