

Southern California Orchid Species Society

www.socalorchidspecies.com

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Newsletter deadline is the 25th
of the month prior to the month
of issue.

Meeting is 2nd Sunday of each month, at 2 PM
Whitten Community Center
900 S. Melrose , Placentia
(until further notice)

Volume 39 Issue 8

August 2016

Meeting Location Until Further Notice

Whitten Community Center, 900 S. Melrose St., Placentia
East side of Melrose just south of Orangethorpe

August 14, 2016

How to Create an Orchid Reserve

Peter Tobias

We welcome a return visit from Peter Tobias, president of the Orchid Conservation alliance. Last year the OCA raised over \$45,000 to purchase land for the Dracula Reserve in northern Ecuador. His talk will explain what the OCA considers when it raises money for a reserve and, of course, show pictures from the reserve.

He was a founding member of the San Diego County Orchid Society's Conservation Committee. The success of that endeavor in San Diego led to the idea that orchid lovers nationwide, and even internationally, might support an organization devoted to orchid habitat protection. The central vision of the Orchid Conservation Alliance is that orchid-rich habitats should remain undisturbed as reserves for the orchids and other organisms that live there. Thus the principal goal of the OCA is to foster the development of wild orchid reserves. To this end they partner with organizations in orchid rich countries, raising money and supporting them as much as possible. For his day job, Tobias is an Associate Professor of Immunology at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California.



Dracula polyphemus in situ

Speaker's Choice

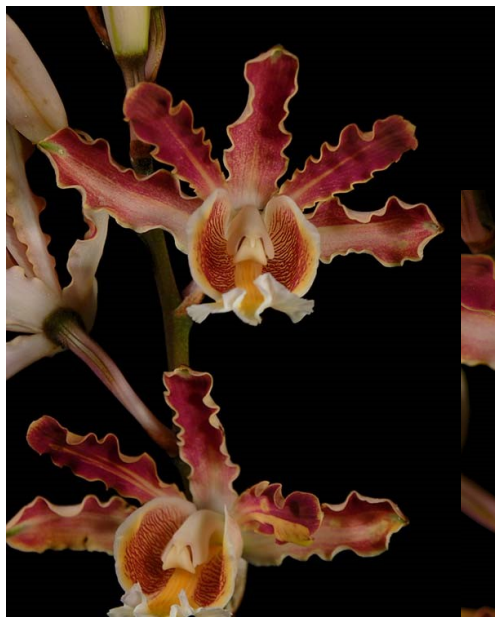
July speaker Curtis Gean selected *Dichaea glauca*, grown by Scott McGregor. This plant was compact, fragrant, and floriferous. After he had made his choice, Curtis noticed that there was a group of plants on another table that he had not seen when making his choice. He was given the opportunity to choose a second “favorite” and for that one he chose *Myrmecophila tibicinis*, grown by Roberta Fox. Both Scott and Roberta grow their plants outside.

Dichaea glauca grows over a wide range including much of Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. It grows over a range of elevations from 2300–6550 ft (700-2000 m) according to Charles Baker in *Orchidwiz*. The species name refers to the white coating on the leaves (glaucous). As its wide distribution implies, it grows readily in the temperature range that it encounters in coastal southern California.

Myrmecophila tibicinis was removed from the genus *Schomburgkia*. This genus is characterized by thick, hollow



Dichaea glauca



Myrmecophila tibicinis



pseudobulbs that, in nature, are home to ant colonies. The genus name translates to “ant lover”. This species is native to southern Mexico and Central America, extending to Venezuela. It is found in both humid and dry forests at elevations up to 1950 ft. (600 m). This would imply that it might need a greenhouse in winter, but it grows readily outside in full sun, with no protection from the cold or rain.

From the Member's Corner

We did not have any guests for the July meeting. But we have lost a long time member; Kent Lovelady passed away recently. He and his wife Melissa have been members for years. Though now 94, Melissa said she'd like to try to come see us in the future. Stay as cool as possible, take care with your plants and we'll see you on August 14th at the Whitten Center on Melrose.

Happy growing,

Edie Gulrich, Membership Secretary

President's Message

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/orchid-pests-diseases/heat-stress.aspx>

Hot, Hot, Hot...

It was a week ago, I thought I would be a good son and repot an overgrown Cattleya growing at my mother's house. She put in a box and when I got home I left it on my patio table. During this time we were dog sitting for my son. He has 2 terriers, one a 4 year old female mix and the other a 10 month old Jack Russell "Terrorist" otherwise known as Hamilton. Little did I know the box was too attractive on the patio table. The Cattleya was collateral damage as Hamilton enjoyed playing with the box and the Cattleya laid in the full sun all day in my back yard with the leaves turning Black,

(see the definition of sunburn in the AOS article above).

The Internet is a great resource for many kinds of information. The above link is to the AOS web site and has interesting information about signs to look for and ways to take care of our orchids during our hot weather.

So my recommendation is to read the article or others available and use all resources to make it through the heat. The thing for me to discern is whether my plants have the roots necessary to take up water. "When that rate of evaporation exceeds the pace at which moisture is being replaced through water taken up by the orchid's roots, the plant becomes dehydrated" yeah, read the AOS Article.

See you in August!

Dana Seelig, President

Editor's Potting Bench

We have a small break in orchid-acquiring opportunities, but that is a good chance to do some catching up on the ones we already have. Since lots of plants are in active growth now, you may have some that could be divided. We have our auction in October, and anything that you wish to donate just makes room for more! (Of course, it helps the club, too... that's our only fundraiser.) The usual species vendors will be at Fascination of Orchids the last weekend of September, always some interesting orchids to buy. There will also be some special vendors from out of the area coming to the show at the Huntington at the end of October, since the AOS Members' Meeting will be held at the same time as the show.

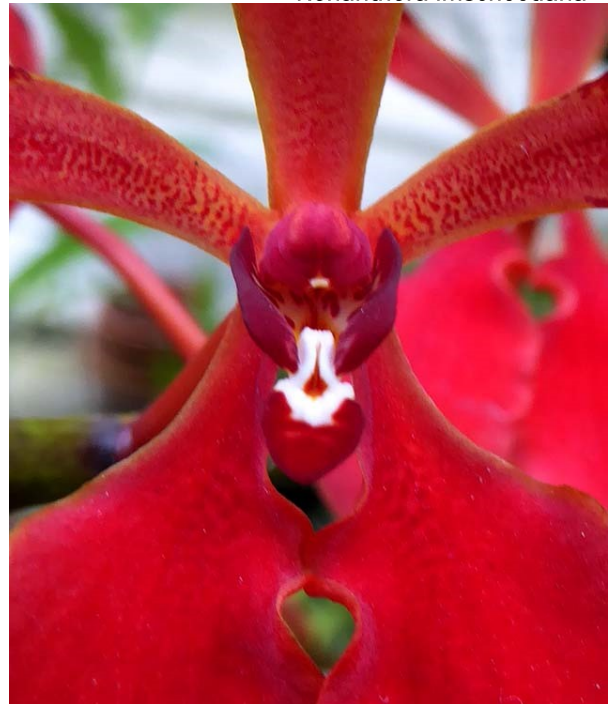
This year I decided to move the Catasetinae out of the greenhouse once I started the heavy watering of the substantial new growth. Also, by that time the nights had warmed up, since those plants really don't want to go much below 60 deg. F. Now, that is not a problem. As the leaves got large, the greenhouse was really getting very crowded, and they were shading each other at a time when they needed light. Outside, they're getting much better light and air movement. I'm watering both morning and evening, and fertilizing every couple of days. I am very pleased with the results. They are growing bigger rapidly, and I am starting to see spikes on quite a few. Last year I started fertilizing more and got good growth, but

blooming was not great. I do think light was the missing ingredient.

If you have *Pterostylis curta*, it is time to repot and start watering lightly until new growth appears in six weeks to two months. When you unpot the tubers, do look carefully for all of them. I have found that even the littlest ones (the size of a BB) are quite capable of vigorous growth. I hope that you find them multiplying like mine do. (Yes, there will be some at the auction,

See: **Editor's Potting Bench, Page 4**

Renanthera imschootiana



Editor's Potting Bench, from Page 3

so that if you didn't get a pot of them already, you will have another chance.)

While mid-summer does not have the prolific blooming that will occur in another six weeks or so, there are some interesting things in my yard and greenhouse. *Renanthera imschootiana*, which I obtained last year from Richard Hess, is starting to bloom spectacularly. However, it's too big to transport, so you'll just have to enjoy the photo or come over to my house. This species comes from the eastern Himalaya and south-central China at higher elevations, so I concluded that it would be OK outside during the winter. I put it under the polycarbonate cover with the *Cattleya* species that I grow outside, and it seems to have managed the winter cold just

fine.

In the greenhouse, *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica* is blooming profusely, mostly on inflorescences that also bloomed last year. (If they're green, don't cut them!) Along with the interesting patterns on the petals, there is a fuzzy lip that is better observed in the photo. If you have the electronic version, zoom in for a better look.

Laelia liliputiana is an absolutely charming miniature rupicolous *Laelia*. The growths (pseudobulb plus leaf) are only about 1" each. The flower, on a 2" spike, is about 3/4", maybe 1" if it were flattened out. It grows in a clump. With the very succulent, stiff leaves pointed upward where they can direct any rain or dew that falls on them to the roots and present minimal surface to the direct hot sun, it is clear that this plant has



**Laelia
liliputiana**



*Continued,
Page 5*

Calendar of Events * indicates that event flier is on the website.

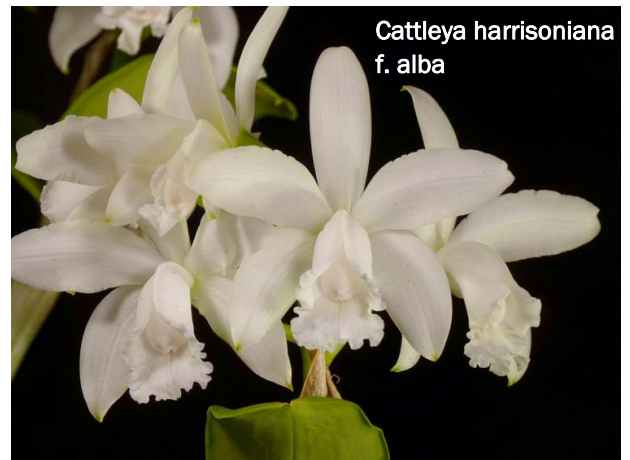
- South Bay Orchid Society Orchid Show and Sale***
 September 17-18; Sales Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4; Show Sat 11-5, Sun 9-4
 South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes
 Info: www.southbayorchidsociety.com
- Fascination of Orchids International Show and Sale***
 September 24-25; 10 AM–5 PM
 South Coast Plaza Village, 1621 W. Sunflower, Santa Ana
 Info: www.ocorchidshow.com or (949) 416-0505
- International Show and Sale at the Huntington***
 October 21-23 ; Friday Noon–4:30 PM, Saturday and Sunday 10:30 AM–4:30 PM
 Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Garden, San Marino
 Info: www.huntington.org/OrchidShow or btam@huntington.org
 Presented in conjunction with the American Orchid Society Fall Members' Meeting October 19-23

evolved in a very harsh environment.

Lycaste schilleriana is definitely one that needs to grow in a basket. At least one inflorescence developed sideways, well below the level of the main part of the plant, and it is blooming quite nicely. It has adapted nicely to my environment, having gone through the entire annual cycle of blooming, losing leaves, growing new ones, and blooming again. I grow the *Lycastes* against the north wall of the house. They get some bright sun in the early morning, and a little in the late afternoon, but are otherwise in open shade. all day. I find the colors and contrast very striking. This one will probably make it to the meeting.



Lycaste schilleriana



Cattleya harrisoniana
f. alba

Bifoliate *Cattleyas* are starting to bloom. This one is labeled *C. harrisoniana* f. alba. It could also be *C. loddigesii*, a hybrid of the two, or a plant from the boundaries of the ranges of the two species that is an intermediate form. The speciation between these is pretty fuzzy. This one can bloom both in the early spring and mid-summer, usually from a green sheath (characteristic of *C. harrisoniana*, I think) More knowledgeable eyes than mine would have to examine the lip to determine which it favors, and it varies with different bloomings. (I would take the position that if the line between the two species is so indistinct, perhaps they really are not really separate.)

Roberta Fox, Editor

These vendors have generously supported our Society at the last Auction, and throughout the year. Please support them with your business. When you visit them, let them know that you are a member of our society. They need to know that our Society supports them.

<p>Andy's Orchids Contact: Andy & Harry Phillips 760-436-4235, info@andysorchids.com www.andysorchids.com</p>	<p>Aroma Orchids of Rowland Heights Contact: Michelle Liu 626-839-3888 aromaorchids@gmail.com</p>	<p>Asbell Orchids Contact: Bob & Dan Asbell 805-550-5484</p>
<p>Cal-Orchid Contact: James Rose 805-967-1312, calorchid@cox.net www.calorchid.com</p>	<p>Casa de las Orquideas Contact: Nancy Batchman 858-755-7572, casa@orquideas.com www.orquideas.com</p>	<p>Diamond Orchids Contact: Peter Lin 909-396-0334, minicatt99@yahoo.com www.diamondorchids.com</p>
<p>Ecuagenera Contact: Ivan Portilla info@ecuagenera.com www.ecuagenera.com</p>	<p>Everything Orchids Contact: Linda Gardner (619)252-1294, everythingorchids@cox.net www.everythingorchids.biz</p>	<p>Floralia Contact: Steve Champlin info@floralia.com.br www.floralia.com.br/index.html</p>
<p>Gold Country Orchids Contact: Alan Koch 916-645-8600, gcorchids@aol.com www.goldcountryorchids.com</p>	<p>Hatfield Orchids Contact: George Hatfield 805-901-0340, www.hatfieldorchids.com</p>	<p>Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens Contact: Brandon Tam btam@huntington.org www.http://huntington.org</p>
<p>Lico Orchids Contact: Lisa Humphries & Nico Goossens 760-942-4143, lico_orchids@aol.com</p>	<p>Mariposa Garden Contact: Ron Hill 562-920-5588, www.mariposagarden.com</p>	<p>Mr. Fertilizer Contact: Don Knipp 949-548-2678,</p>
<p>Orchid Design Contact: Angelic Nguyen 408-947-0486 angelic@orchidesign.com www.orchidesign.com</p>	<p>Orchids & Gardens Contact: Susan Hamilton orchidsandgardens@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Orchids of Los Osos Contact: Michael Glikbarg (805) 528-0181, orchidland@aol.com www.orchidsoflososos.com</p>
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<p>Sunset Valley Orchids Contact: Fred Clarke 760-639-6255, fred.clarke@att.net www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com</p>	<p>The Orchid Place Contact: Nghia Le cuheo1@netscape.net</p>	<p>Wise Orchids Contact: Ed Wise 714-524-1730;orchides@pacbell.net</p>