

*Sonoma County  
Orchid Society*

# SCOS ORCHID NEWS

## AUGUST EVENTS

**Meeting** **August 14, 2007 Tuesday** **7:00 Skill Session**  
Veterans Memorial Building **7:30 Meeting**  
1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa  
Dining Room-East side of the building

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**Speaker** Alan Koch and a panel of 2 additional AOS judges from the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center.  
Subject: *AOS Judging and How it Relates to You*

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**Skill Session** **No Skill Session this month**

**Please contact Larry Meade if you are willing to give a skill session!!!!!!!!!!**

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**Opportunity Table** The California Sierra Nevada Judging Center will be providing the opportunity table.  
Please contact Kathy Fletcher or Ann Conger if you are interested in volunteering this month.

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**Plant Sales Volunteers** Contact Mariann Hopkins or Marilyn Barquero if you can help out this month with plant sales.

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**Refreshments** Anyone who brings in refreshments will receive a ticket for a special drawing of only those who have brought in refreshments. If your ticket is drawn you will receive first choice of a plant from the raffle table.



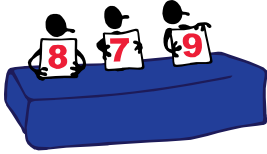
Refreshments will be provided by John Bjornstrom, Judy Carney, Darlene Coffman, Nicki Kelmm and Josie Lee.

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**Open Greenhouse** **There will not be an open greenhouse this month.**

**Please contact Larry Meade if you are willing to host an open greenhouse!!**

## August Speaker



Our speakers this month will be three certified judges from the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center. These folks will present a program that is designed to help you better understand the AOS judging process. You will find out what all of the strange letters mean after a plant's name and will learn the difference between ribbon and AOS judging.

The California Sierra Nevada Judging Center is the newest in the AOS system and has awarded a number of fine plants in its first year of operation.

The speaker's dinner will be at CoCo's, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa, CA at 5:30 PM. The food is wonderful, and it's a great opportunity to meet and talk to the speakers. If you plan to come, please contact **Larry Meade at 539-5316**. Please join us.

## Last Month's Speaker Review



**"Orchid Culture"** presented by Debra Atwood

Debra Atwood's enthusiasm shined on everyone, on the evening of July 2007, infusing us with hope and optimism and confidence we have what it takes to be successful orchid growers using common-sense culture techniques. A lingering summer cough didn't prevent her venturing into one of the broadest, in depth culture lessons many of us have been treated to. As incoming Vice-President Larry Meade said, and we would agree, "I'm just glad she didn't cancel due to the cough."

Debra calls her basic philosophy the Zen of growing orchids: "What the fly on the greenhouse wall overheard." Reminiscent of English lit., this is the basic omniscient point-of-view of a story (a view which sees all sides), transferred to a greenhouse orchid's point-of-view. When she can squeeze it in between lectures, teaching classes, making the show circuit and farmer's markets (running her 7-year business), Debra wishes to be a much-needed writer.

Following along in her brochure, we paid attention as she considered some of the problems encountered on the bumpy road of our beloved hobby: light, watering, potting, etc., and she didn't flinch telling what we could do to those nasty mealy bugs and aphids.

**Bugs:** Inspect the undersides of leaves and crevices and backs of flowers (magnifying glass helpful?) each week, looking for the shiny spots which tell of their presence and zap with alcohol spray. "Aphids and mealybugs are smart. The mother mealybug will shield her babies with her body, so watch for her escaping dust-like orange offspring." Debra suggests dabbing with alcohol on an artist's brush to remove them from flowers and uses a dental probe to discover hiding places, confessing, "I know I'm a little anal." Air movement also deters bugs. Use lots of fans!

**Light:** "if you're growing beautiful dark green leaves, you'll be growing beautiful dark green leaves." Light brings orchids into bloom. Use a light meter to find the brightest light safe for your plants and place appropriately. If growing in your home, the bright light of any window but north is good, but watch for seasonal sun changes. Discovering sunburn on cattleyas in her south-facing classroom once the winter sun had moved south, she pulled back the tables and installed sheer curtains to remedy things. Touch will tell and warm leaves say there's too much light.

**Potting & Water:** Repot often, down-potting if necessary, allowing enough potting space for 2-years' growth, and experiment with potting mixes. "Adjust potting medium and pots and you can get everyone on the same schedule." Water often, but spare the mist. Dry bark sucks water and shrinks the plant, and it may need submersion watering to replump. "... This is why we presoak potting medium. It seasons it. Debra suggested top-dressing with moss ..." but refrain from misting, which rots flowers and new growth.

And ... move 'em out! ... With a sprinkle of precautionary snailbait and protection from wind and the noonday sun. "Moving orchids outside in summer is magical!"

Speaker review provided by Kathy Dickerson.

## THANK YOU

A great big THANK-YOU goes out to the outgoing Board and Committee Chairs. Without these folks volunteering their time and energy we would not have the viable Society we currently have. Linda Eggleston-Secretary, Marilyn Bucher-Newsletter Editor, Jeanne Van Blarcon-Opportunity Table, Lucy Whitworth-Refreshments, Beverly Hinds and Charlene Shaw- Bus Trip

Thanks to Kris and Jim Foster for hosting the Potting party & thanks to those of you who stayed to help clean-up including Earl, Ted and Larry. A special thanks to Ted for driving to Oregon to pick up the bark.

Thank-you to Kathy Dickerson for providing the excellent Speaker Review in this month's Newsletter for those of you who could not attend the last meeting.

## Lost and Found

Someone left 2 floral designed green and blue plates at the Potting Party. Call Kris @762-7124 if you want them back.

## Announcements



**This month will begin a transition period where we will begin working on switching over to posting the Newsletter on our website where it can be read or downloaded. The website should be up and working by mid August and the September Newsletter will be available on the website next month. Those of you who indicated on your annual membership forms that you would prefer to receive the newsletter via email will receive a notification that it is available with instructions for accessing it. Those who indicated "snail mail" will continue to receive it via U.S. Mail. This switch will save us considerable dollars on postage that will be used elsewhere within the Society. So, I ask your patience during this time and I assure you that you will receive a newsletter next month even if I have to bring it personally- Jim Foster, Newsletter Editor.**

**Your responsibility is to make sure your dues are current and your email address is correct, without these two items you will not receive the Newsletter. Updates should be sent to Barbara Wolsko, Membership secretary so she can update the database.**

## Board Meeting Summary



New board members were welcomed.

Minutes from the May and June meetings were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report was approved. The fiscal committee will meet on Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> and prepare the final budget.

The Membership Secretary provided a list of all volunteer signups from all new/renewal application to the board who will provide them to the various committee chairs for follow-up. There were many new names on these lists.

Official board meeting date was changed to the third Thursday of the month.

The dinner meeting for incoming/outgoing board members, their spouses/partners is scheduled for Aug 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The Olive Garden in Rohnert Park, CA The committee chairs and their spouses/partners are also invited.

**Next Board Meeting: Thursday, August 16th at 6:30 p.m. at the Olive Garden in Rohnert Park.**

## Orchid Facts

### HOW DO YOU SAY THAT?

Ever been tongue-tied trying to pronounce the name of an orchid species? Here's a helpful guide to some of the more common ones.



**Aerangis** ay-er-RANG-giss  
**Aeranthes** ay-er-AN-theez  
**Angraecum** an-GRYE-kum  
**Aspasia** a-SPAY-zi-a  
**Bifrenaria** bye-fren-AIR-i-a  
**Brassavola** bra-SAH-vo-la  
**Brassia** BRASS-ee-ah  
**Bulbophyllum** bulb-oh-FILL-um  
**Catasetum** kat-a-SEE-tum  
**Cattleya** KAT-lee-a  
**Cochleanthes** kok-lee-AN-theez  
**Coelia** SEE-li-a  
**Coelogyne** see-LOJ-in-ee  
**Cycnoches** SIK-no-keez  
**Cymbidium** sim-BID-ee-em  
**Cypripedium** sip-ree-PEE-dee-um  
**Dendrobium** den-DROH-bee-um  
**Dendrochilum** den-droh-KYE-lum  
**Disa** DYE-sa

**Encyclia** en-SEE-blee-ah  
**Epidendrum** eh-pi-DEN-drum  
**Habenaria** hab-en-AY-ri-a  
**Jumellea** joo-MELL-ee-a  
**Laelia** LAY-lee-ah or LIE-lee-a  
**Lepanthes** lee-PAN-theez  
**Listera** LISS-ter-a  
**Lycaste** lye-KASS-tee  
**Masdevallia** mas-de-VAL-lee-a  
**Miltonia** mil-TOH-nee-a  
**Neofinetia** nee-o-fin-AY-tee-a  
**Odontoglossum** o-don-toh-GLOSS-um  
**Oncidium** on-SID-ee-um  
**Paphiopedilum** paff-ee-oh-PEE-di-lum  
**Phalaenopsis** fal-en-OP-sis  
**Sophronitis** sof-roh-NYE-tiss  
**Spathoglottis** spath-oh-GLOT-tiss  
**Vanda** VAN-da

### Upcoming Events

- Mark your calendars! The SCOS 2008 Spring Show will be on February 2-3, 2008. This is one month earlier than usual. Contact Linda Eggleston if you are willing to help.
- The next SCOS regular meeting will be September 11, 2007.
- **Growing Orchids in Sacramento, Sacramento Orchid Forum Annual Show and Sale** September 15 & 16, 2007. Hours Sat. 11am-5:30pm & Sun. 10am - 4 pm, Garden Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA (located in McKinley Park in Sacramento take the H Street exit).
- **Coastal Valley Orchid Society Second Annual Orchid Expo and Sale.** September 15 & 16, 2007, Lompoc, CA
- **San Francisco Orchid Society 6th annual Orchid Fest**, September 22 & 23, 2007, Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA  
[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

### Show & Tell Incentives

Every time you bring a plant to Show and Tell you will receive a chance to win the "Three Month Plant". When you bring in your plant (or plants) to share, fill out the two-part card identifying the plant and your name. Be sure to fill out one for each plant. Put one part of the card with the plant and the other part of the card in the drawing box. A drawing will be held every three months.

**2007/2008  
Board of Directors**

President	Ted Pruden	528-7710	None
V. President	Larry Mead	539-5316	lrm9@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Kris Foster	762-7124	foster@sonic.net
Treasurer	Steven Tierra	823-1587	sctierra@sonic.net
Membership	Barbara Wolsko	762-5027	bwolsko@sbcglobal.net
Newsletter Editor	Jim Foster	762-7124	foster@sonic.net
Past President	Garry Baker	996-5237	glb@creative1.com
Ways & Means	Josie Lee	526-5239	leej@sonic.net
Publicity	Vacant		
Meetings Director	Vacant		

**Committee  
Chairs**

Meetings Setup	Vacant		
Greeter	Marlene Spano	579-2494	blueorchid9@mac.com
Librarian	Ann Possinger	538-4101	apossinger@juno.com
Opportunity Table	Kathy Fletcher	935-0721	gemlotus@aol.com
	Ann Conger	823-0334	travelwfriends@aol.com
Plant Sales	Mariann Hopkins	829-1043	rmhoppy@aol.com
	Marilyn Barquero	763-882	mbarquero@sbcglobal.net
Refreshments	Gerry Smith	795-0235	jagmsmith@yahoo.com
	Ann Possinger	538-4101	apossinger@juno.com
Spring Show	Linda Eggleston	887-2412	egglestonenterprises@juno.com
Bus Trip	Tony Mininno	874-2200	bradtony@sonic.net
Holiday Party	Diana Brown	762-1779	dianarhea56@yahoo.com
AOS/Orchid Digest	Patty Connick	538-4245	connick@sonic.net
Webmaster	Sara Rathbun and Stephen Henry		

**Newsletter**



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: August 25th**

If you have an announcement, thank you, notice or anything else for the next newsletter please email Jim Foster at foster@sonic.net or mail to 827 Cleveland Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952 or call 707-762-7124.

This is your opportunity to let me know what you like and do Not like about our newsletter. I am open to any and all suggestion on how to provide you with the best Newsletter possible. Let me know if there are any new section that you would like for me to include, any that you would like to see changes to. I am somewhat limited in the overall size of the final product based on postal considerations, but most times I do not reach this limit. Jim Foster

**Win an Orchid!**

**How can I have a chance to win an orchid? Let me count the ways!**

- 1. Sign up to bring refreshments or help with set up or take down and receive a raffle ticket for the first plant on the Opportunity table.**
- 2. Wear your name tag and be entered into a drawing to win an orchid.**
- 3. Bring a plant for Show and Tell and your name will be entered into a drawing held quarterly.**



**SCOS ORCHID NEWS**  
827 Cleveland Avenue.  
Petaluma, CA 94952

Address Correction Requested

**Visit our website:  
[www.sonomaorchids.com](http://www.sonomaorchids.com)**

**SONOMA COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY**  
The Sonoma County Orchid Society meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month. **Plant sales begin at 6:45 p.m. and ends when the speaker begins his/her presentation.** The Society provides an opportunity for any member to sell plants or material (with a 20% commission to the Society). A reminder to all members that any plant material offered for sale at the Society meeting, must be run through the Society. Pre-arranged pick-up of plants or materials is OK and does not have to go through the Society. Plant owners assume all risk and responsibility for their property. Your members binder has additional information.  
The Skill Session, when scheduled, is held at **7:00** in a separate room at the front of the building. The location will be announced in the newsletter and a sign will be posted at the meeting. Announcements followed by Show and Tell begin at 7:30 p.m. The speaker will begin after Show and Tell (approximately 8:00 p.m.). Refreshments and opportunity plant drawings occur after the speaker's lecture.