



SCOS ORCHID NEWS

Meeting

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 11, 2007 Tuesday 7:00 Skill Session
Veterans Memorial Building **7:30 Meeting**
1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa
Dining Room-East side of the building

Speaker

The speaker this month will be Society Member Leo Hoefler.
Subject: *Roundtable lecture/discussion with audience participation*

Skill Session

No Skill Session this month

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

Opportunity Table

The Opportunity Table will be provided by Marni Turkel this month.

Please contact Kathy Fletcher or Ann Conger if you are interested in volunteering this month.

Plant Sales Volunteers

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

Open Greenhouse

The open greenhouse this month is hosted by Robert Benevides on September 16th from 12 noon until 4:00 PM. His greenhouses are located at the Raymond Burr Vineyards, 8339 West Dry Creek Rd., Healdsburg, CA.

Mark your calendars for a visit to Robert's greenhouses. If you have never been to Robert's this is a must do trip. Directions can be found on page 7.

Please contact Larry Mead if you are willing to host an open greenhouse later this year or next!



September Speaker

Our speaker this month will be Leo Hoefler. Leo has been a teacher of a variety of subjects since 1950 when he taught language in a college. His favorite teaching subject is physics. One of his hobbies is orchid culture, and his first orchid came from an orchid nursery in 1941 where he had one of his first learning jobs, pulling weeds and shoveling manure.

This month's presentation will not be a slide show or a lecture. Leo will involve the audience in a seminar style discussion where people briefly share their experiences and opinions. We will go around the room and get ideas from our members focusing on the following:

1. The microclimate in which you try to grow orchids: your kitchen, favorite window, greenhouse, patio or garden.
2. Your favorite type of orchid, your happiest success or saddest failure, and what it taught you.
3. Your specific experience with growing mediums: container type and size, barks, rock, fertilizers and moisture.
4. The benefits of air circulation and humidity in your growing conditions.
5. References you might suggest to others: articles, books, or websites.

The speaker's dinner will be at Kirin in Bennett Valley Shopping Center at 5:30 PM. The food is wonderful, and it's a great opportunity to meet and talk to the speaker. If you plan to come, please contact **Ted Pruden at 528-7710**. Please join us.

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 Lorena Wightman, Earl and Kathy Rathbun, Barbara Klein, Ann Possinger, Becky Jackson, Marlene Spano, and Mary Ann Aleandri.

Please remember to drop a donation into the jar if you enjoy a beverage from the refreshment table. This will help offset the cost of the beverages.

Show & Tell Incentives

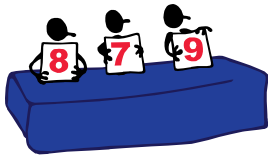
Every time you bring a plant to Show and Tell you will receive a chance to win the "Three Month Plant". When you bring in your plant (or plants) to share, fill out the two-part card identifying the plant and your name. Be sure to fill out one for each plant. Put one part of the card with the plant and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

Board Meeting Summary

The Board met at the Olive Garden on August 16th for the Annual Outgoing and Incoming Board member dinner. The only business was the Treasurer's report that the interim budget was adopted on August 14th and will be reviewed at the October meeting. Banking authorization forms were distributed for the new board members.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, September 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the Round Table Pizza Parlor on Occidental Road.

Last Month's Speaker Review



“AOS Judging and How it Relates to You”

Allen Koch, Dennis Olivas and David Sorokowsky, enthusiastic accredited AOS judges from the recently-formed California Sierra Nevada Judging Center in Sacramento, parried our questions with ease, evoking our respect for the years spent earning their degrees, and gratitude for clearing up much of the mystery which surrounds the AOS judging system. Dennis says he was the last of the 3-year clerks. In the past it took 10+ years before a prospective judge earned accreditation. Clerks now put in 6 months to a year “to make sure they can handle the paperwork,” followed by 3 years as a student, and 3 more as a probationary judge, before earning full accreditation.

Ribbon vs. AOS judging: Ribbon judging, the blue, red, and white ribbons awarded when we enter orchids at the show, acknowledges our *personal interest* in growing orchids. The coveted AOS Award recognizes *quality* in orchids, the best of the best, “the idea of perfection,” as Dennis says, and evaluates through a point system: 75-79 points HCC (Highly Commended Certificate); 80-89 AOM (Award of Merit); 90-100 FCC (First Class Certificate).

Orchids entered for ribbons are automatically entered for AOS judging, unless an entrant doesn't wish it and then he/she must fill out an exclusion form. Plants winning the AOS Award are charged a nominal fee, currently reduced from \$40 to \$28, which includes a photo of your orchid.

There are other awards. Displaying an Epi. Black-and-Purple (true name), Allen said he could give this showy species, deserving recognition as much as the hybrids, a CBR (Cert of Botanical Recognition) and a CHM (Cert of Horticultural Merit). A basket-of-orchids could earn a gold medal, Dennis said, “if it's nicely arranged, nicely labeled . . . There's many awards we can give.”

What the judges look for : 1) Flowers staked and facing up, looking at the public; 2) No unusual colored wires which distract from the plant; 3) Prime blooming condition, neither partially open (at least 1/3 - 1/2 flowers should be open on spikes) nor dying and on the way out; and 4) no bugs. Dennis says fear of rejection is the main reason most people don't enter their orchids for AOS judging, and encourages tenacity, having endured rejection five times before receiving his first award.

While shows and judging centers are established sites, the new group at CSNJC are pulling orchids from Show-and-Tell and Op. Tables at societies, awarding them on the spot. Allen's exuberance is infectious: “One of them almost got an FCC. It was that good!” He hopes this becomes a trend and more judges will “. . . mingle with society, not only with commercial people, but those of you who take care of your plants real good. We're there to find quality flowers and judge quality flowers. If you're ever in Sacramento the first Wednesday of the month, come on in and watch the judging process.” Address: Odd Fellows Hall, 1831 Howe Ave., Sacramento, CA.; 7:00 pm.

Speaker review, Aug. 14, 2007 by Kathy Dickerson.

Thanks

A great big THANK-YOU goes out to John Bjornstrom, Judy Carney, Darlene Coffman, Nicki Kelmm and Josie Lee for providing refreshments at the last meeting.

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

President Ted Pruden would like to thank all of the members who stepped forward to assist him during the past year after he assumed the vacated presidency position.



Annual Open House and Pottery Sale
Marni Turkel / Stony Point Ceramic Design
Saturday, September 22nd, 10am until at least 3pm
2080 Llano Road #1B, Santa Rosa



Great deals on all ceramics by Marni Turkel. That includes vases, planters, flower arranging containers, dinnerware, barrel rims and urns. This one day annual clearance sale is a chance to save at least 50% on seconds, discontinued shapes and colors, trials and overstocked items. Also 20% off on all first quality stock on hand. One hour north of the Golden Gate.

Directions to the Pottery:

From Highway 101 in Santa Rosa, take Highway 12 West towards Sebastopol. Go 4 miles to the stop light at Llano Road. Turn left onto Llano. Go approximately 1/4 mile to 2080 Llano Road and turn left into the driveway. We are in the first building on the left.

For questions call 707-328-5973 or e-mail marni@marniturkel.com. Her website is <http://www.marniturkel.com>

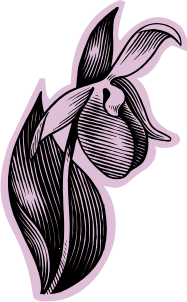


Important Notice!

This month will begin the switch from mailing to posting the Newsletter on our website where it can be read or downloaded. The website is up and available now and can be accessed by going to www.sonomaorchids.com. I will send an email to all members when the newsletter is available for reading or downloading with instructions for accessing it. Only 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. If you have any problems receiving or downloading the newsletter please email me at foster@sonic.net. I ask your patience during this time and I assure you that you will receive a newsletter 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. You can contact her by mailing the information to 1518 Anna Way, Petaluma, CA or calling at 707-762-5027, or via email at bwolsko@sbcglobal.net.

Orchid Trivia and Facts



Dot Henley's Orchid Trivia:

Reference: Attenborough, D. 1955. **The Private Life of Plants**. Princeton: Univ. Press:

American Cherokees used *Aplectrum* to insure eloquence in their children and Spiranthes to keep children healthy. *Planatera* orchids were used to make fish bite (p 634)

Mexicans used *Laelias* to prevent abortions and in Europe *Orchis* were used to restore male potency and to foster true love. Europeans have used orchids in funeral rites, in rites of puberty, and in Christian religious rites. P634

Only three orchids do not have bisexual flowers. They are *Catasetums*, *Cycnoches*, and *Mormodes*. P208

- *Sobralia xantholeucea* flowers are 10" in diameter and *Paph Sanderianum* has 40" twisted petals. **Botanica's Orchids**. 2002. San Diego, Ca. Lauren Glen. Pub. Page 12

- Phrag. Grande petals hang down as far as 18 inches, making it the longest orchid flower. If you hold the petals horizontally, you have a 36" wide orchid. Rittershausen, B and W. 2003. **Growing Orchids**, Hermes House, London England.

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.
- Next month's SCOS regular meeting will be October 9, 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**. Sept 22nd, 10 - 4, The Lompoc Public Library, in the Grossman Gallery, 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
- **Fall AOS 2007 Members Meeting & Symposium**. October 19-21, 2007, American Orchid Society Visitors Center and Botanical Gardens, Delray Beach, FL
<http://www.aosfall2007.com/>
- Ivan Portilla from Ecuagenera will be speaking on the **Orchids of Ecuador at the Peninsula Orchid Society**, September 28, 2007. His presentation will feature photographs of many of the orchids of Ecuador taken in situ, and is a wonderful travelogue of orchid adventures in this orchid rich country. Ivan will also be supplying the opportunity table. The POS meeting will have a skill session at 7, followed by the general meeting at 8. Address: The San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo CA.

**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



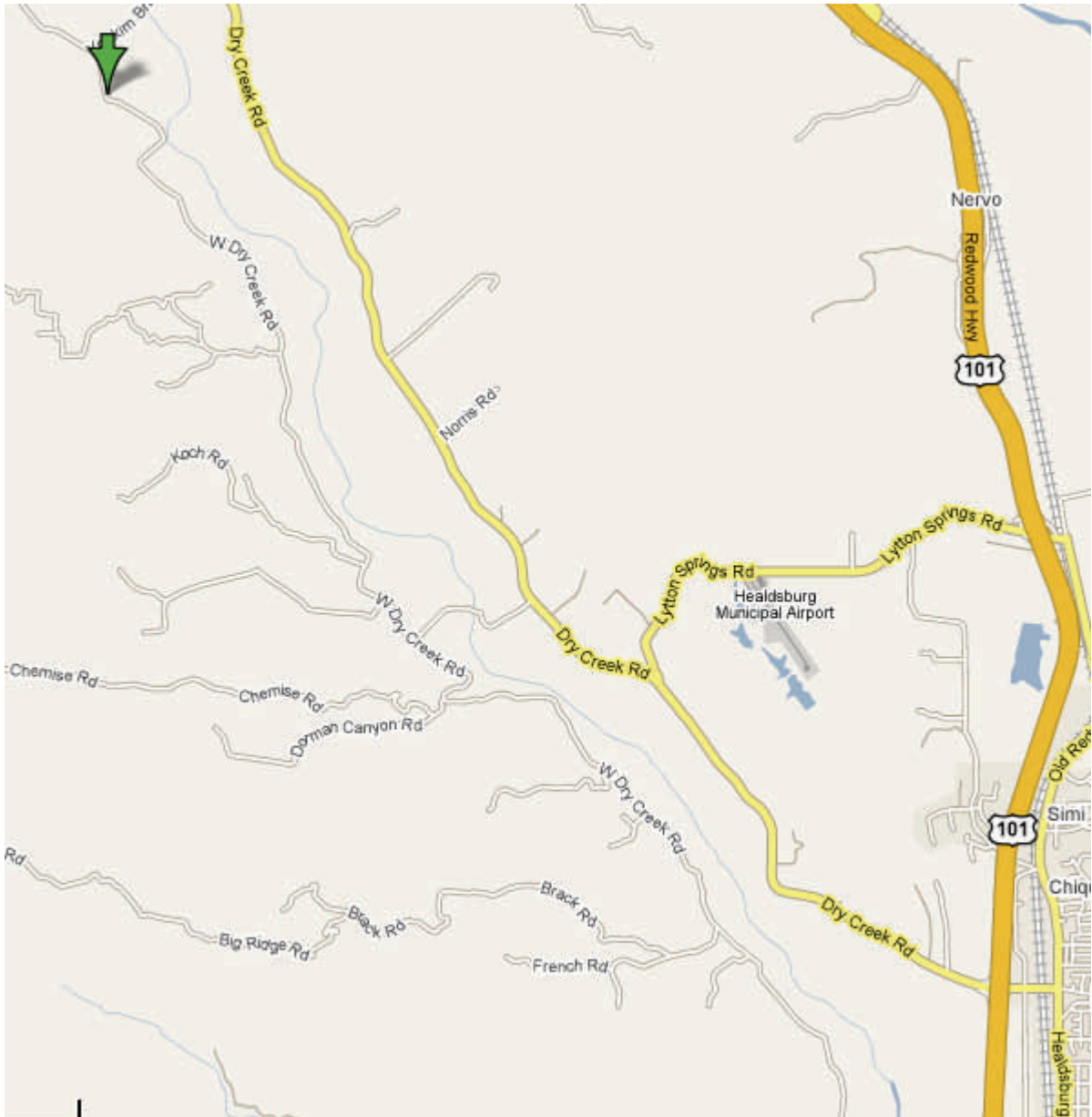
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: September 25th

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.

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.**



Directions to Robert Benevides Open Greenhouse:

Take Hwy. 101 north to the Dry Creek Road Exit in Healdsburg. Turn Left on Dry Creek Road and then travel west for 7.3 miles to Yoakim Bridge Rd. Travel .6 miles to West Dry Creek Road and turn left onto West Dry Creek Rd. Travel .2 miles to 8339 West Dry Creek Rd and turn right to the greenhouse.



SCOS ORCHID NEWS
827 Cleveland Avenue.
Petaluma, CA 94952

Address Correction Requested

**Visit our website:
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 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.