

# Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Next Meeting:

Wednesday,  
November 16, 2011

Location: Louise Lowry Davis  
Recreation Center  
1232 De La Vina (at Victoria)

Meeting: 7:30 PM

Carlos Cruz  
will speak about  
*Vertical Gardening with Orchids*

We live in a perfect climate for growing orchids outdoors. Come hear Carlos Cruz speak about innovative ways of incorporating your orchids in your outdoor landscape. Carlos is passionate about growing orchids epiphytically outdoors in southern California and sharing his knowledge of xeriphytic, epiphytic orchids. (Xeriphytes are plants that are drought tolerant.) He has a popular online blog on the topic and has written for the *CSA Journal*. This is your opportunity to learn some new tricks about growing your orchids outdoors!

Photo: *Laelia Wellesley 'More Mesa' (superbiens x lyonsii)*, exhibited by Cal-Orchid, astonished everyone with its amazingly tall spike. It received an Award of Merit of 81 points from the AOS judges in August. Photo by Larry Vierheilg. Check out Arthur Pinker's entertaining photo of Larry taking the AOS award images.



OSSB Officers and Board for 2011:

President - Frank Methmann	Vice President - Wayne Ferrell
Treasurer - PJ Sanderson	Secretary - Heidi Kirkpatrick
Membership & mailing - Frank Methmann	Hospitality - Frank Methmann
Raffle - Jeff Thompson	Silent Auction - Art Denk
Show Table Results - Heidi Kirkpatrick	AOS Rep - Sandy Svoboda
Directors-at-large - Don Brown & Randall Umland	
Web Master - Meryl Wieder	
Visit the OSSB Web Site!	<a href="http://www.orchidsb.net">www.orchidsb.net</a>

\* OSSB Fall Show "Orchids: Nature's Masterpieces"

*Set-up:* Friday afternoon, 1 pm to 5 pm, November 25, 2011. Bring your plants for your display or the society's.

*Show:* Saturday, November 26 and Sunday, November 27, 2011. Show is free with Museum admission. **We need volunteers for hospitality & sales.**

*Sales:* The sales booth at the fall show is one of our major fund raisers. Members are strongly encouraged to: 1) sell plants, with the society keeping 25% of the sales price; 2) buy plants from the society sales booth; and 3) volunteer to help with sales. (Someone has to take the money from shoppers!)

If you have plants to sell, make a numbered list of your plants, with each plant's price. Get orange tags from PJ Sanderson. Each plant gets an orange tag with the following info: The sales price; the number of the plant on your list; your initials. This orange tag helps us keep track of which plants sell.

*Publicity:* We need help publicizing the show! If you have good, free publicity ideas, coordinate with the OSSB Board and help with a little piece of publicity. **Tell your friends about the Show!**

# Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

November 2011, page 2

\* **Announcements**

- OSSB is accepting dues for 2012. Bring your checkbook to the November meeting and make sure you keep on the membership roster.
- Voting for 2012 OSSB Officers will be in November. It is not too late to become involved in the society! Remember that your newsletter editor (me) will no longer write newsletters as of January. My replacement need not write elaborate reports of past meetings. Most society newsletters don't contain meeting reports.

\* **Report on the October Meeting**

Wayne Ferrell introduced our October speaker, Ken Jacobsen, who is an AOS and CSA judge, CSA judging chair, past CSA Journal editor, and current CSA Journal contributing editor. Ken entertained the membership with a description of "Orchid Travels in Peru." The travels with his wife, Amy, were in November of 2005 and 2009, including shows in Lima and Moyobamba. Also included was a trip to Machu Picchu and to Cuzco.

These trips encompassed a wide range of elevations. Lima is at 12 meters, Moyobamba at 833 meters, Machu Picchu at 2400 meters and Cuzco at 3400 meters (11,000 feet!) Lima has little temperature variation and very little rainfall, perhaps a centimeter per year. However, weather is often overcast and humidity is very high. Heavy dew takes the place of precipitation, and water for the city comes from the river.

Show in Lima is partially outdoors, without cover, as there is no worry about rain. One display used a tree in the grassy courtyard as a backdrop. Another incorporated fake cliff walls with orchids on them. There was even a *Cattleya maxima* on branches under the show canopy. While US exhibitors try to match a show theme or arrange plants according to a color scheme, exhibitors at the Lima show tuck plants in wherever there is space.

Plants included a lot of mericlones that we would see here in California. But there were also other plants of interest. Notable was the prevalence of masdevallias, which Ken described as being "everywhere." A gorgeous *Phragmipedium kovachii* caught Ken's eye, along with a *Telipogon* in a squat pot. *Telipogons* are tricky and short-lived in the US, but happy in their native habitat.

*Anguloa virginalis* is often mislabeled here in the US, but Ken spotted a gorgeous example of the true species. A

**THE ORCHID SOCIETY  
OF SANTA BARBARA**  
*PRESENTS*



*Orchids:  
Nature's  
Masterpieces*

SHOW AND SALE

NOVEMBER 26, 2011 : 10 AM ~ 5 PM  
NOVEMBER 27, 2011 : 10 AM ~ 3 PM

SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
2599 PUESTA DEL SOL ROAD, SANTA BARBARA, CA

SHOW FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION  
MUSEUM: \$10 ADULTS, \$7 SENIORS & AGES 13-17, \$6 AGES 3-12

INFO: FMORCHIDS@HOTMAIL.COM OR WWW.ORCHIDSB.NET

# Orchid Society of Santa Barbara

November 2011, page 3

large head of flowers on *Epidendrum syringithirsis* caught the judges' attention and earned an AOS award. There were only a few cymbidiums, but one was dramatic, earning a CCE from the judges...after being dug out of the garden and set on a tarp to be installed in the display.

The climate in Moyobamba is dramatically different, with about eighty inches of rain a year. Daytime temperatures are roughly 80°F and visitors know they are in orchid country by the statue of *Cattleya rex* in the central square. Moyobamba is not a major metropolis, however, having two paved roads.

Because of the threat of rain, the show is held under a tarp or in the adjacent building. Ken started the virtual tour of it with a *Lycomormium*, an unusual plant with flowers resembling *Peristeria* and having heavy substance, with petals and sepals an eighth of an inch thick. Flowers are very fragrant. There were also *Peristerias*, which feel like they are carved from wax. One species was spotted red on a cream ground.

Other flowers on display included *Acineta*, *Anguloa*, *Gongora*, *Mormodes*, a nice, dark color form of *Oncidium lanceanum* and three species of the bucket orchid, *Coryanthes*, plus a huge *Gomesa*. Also on display was the dramatic and coveted *Phragmipedium kovachii*. In fact, the area is *kovachii* country, and when on the roads through town was first paved, it brought about discovery of the species. The late taxonomist Eric Christenson commented, "When they paved that road, any idiot could fall off the road and get back up with ten new species clinging to their clothes."

Ken and Amy traveled to an area at 1000-1200 meters (roughly 4000 feet) to look for orchids along the road cut. Among the orchids they spotted was a white *epidendrum* amidst the trees, spotted by its huge panicles of flowers. A *Lycomormium* species clung to a rock with the spike trailing downward; the leaves looked like they were from *anguloas*. In low light, they grow more sideways, while their habit is more upright in high light. Also on view were *sobralias* and a *Gomesa* species with a downward spike. Of course, *pleurothallids* and *stellis* were everywhere, including a *stellis* with a half inch pseudobulb. In the grass was *Phrag. boisserianum*, which the locals consider a weed.

Machu Picchu is at 10,500 ft, while the city where one sleeps, Aguas Calientes is at 8000 feet. In addition to the beautiful scenery, this is *masdevallia* country. *Masdevallias* abound, and other orchids, too, including *Ida* and *Sobralia*. *Epidendrum pseudoepidendrum* was blooming on a sheer cliff and *Anguloa virginalis* joined the show. There were *epidendrums* on the sides of structure

and even one next to the women's bathroom.

The grounds of the very exclusive Inca Terra Hotel have their own botanist. Local orchids were transplanted here, including *maxillarias*, *pleurothallids*, *sobralias*, and *Lycaste locusta*, which is endemic. Ken noted that "lithophytes" here were orchids on rock in four inches of damp moss. There were *telipogons*, *cochliodas*, *adas*, *idas*, *masdevallias* and *encyclias*, and even a *Lycaste macrophylla* he said had an award quality flower. One *stellis* bloomed with an inch flower, larger than *Stelis grandis*.

To get to Machu Picchu, one flies from Lima, at sea level, to Cuzco, at 11,000 feet. Ken recommended taking the train immediately to the city near Machu Picchu, going down in elevation and thereby avoiding altitude sickness. Three days later, one will have acclimatized to the elevation. Visitors should get malaria, yellow fever, and cholera shots, plus come prepared with altitude sickness pills. Flights inside Peru are expensive unless one books several months in advance.



## Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Membership Renewal

Annual Membership is \$35. Make checks payable to OSSB. Memberships can be renewed at the monthly meeting or by sending your check to: PJ Sanderson, 2211 Alameda Padre Serra, Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Please include the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Show Table Results

First place went to Josh Davis' lovely *Pleione maculata* '#1'. Larry Vierheilig claimed second and third with *L. perrinii* f. *coerulea* and *Onc.* Jiunbao Gold 'Tainan'. Thanks also to Don Brown, Carol Rogers, Daniel Geiger, Bryce Augustine and Bill Robson for making our show table delightful in October!

On page 3, Larry Vierheilig's photo shows *Phragmipedium* Wössner Super Grande 'Long House', which was awarded a 75 pt HCC. The plant belongs to Bryce Augustine.

## AOS Judging:

The American Orchid Society's Central Coast Judging Center meets concurrently with OSSB in the small room at Louise Lowry Davis. To enter a plant in AOS judging, bring it by 6:30PM for registration. Note that AOS judging is separate from our society's monthly show table.

Thanks to SBOE for the raffle table and to Julie Pettibone and Frank Methmann for refreshments.