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Santa Cruz Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2019

Next Meeting - May 10, 7:30 pm

Live Oak Grange Hall, 1900 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz

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May Program

For our May 10 meeting, Mary Gerritsen will be talking about "Growing Orchids Outdoors in the San Francisco Bay Area."

It is often said that we are blessed to live in the Bay Area. Our mild weather conditions throughout the year make it possible to grow an amazing variety of cool to intermediate temperature loving orchids. However, for successful outdoor growing it is essential to understand certain key elements. Join us for Mary's informative talk that will cover what you need to know about growing orchids outside, including microclimates, selecting or creating suitable growing area, cultural tips, how to cope with heat and cold, and a survey of popular orchids that are grown outside year round in different parts of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Dinner with the Speaker

Dinner with the speaker will be at Sabieng Tai Cuisine, 1218 Mission St., Santa Cruz at 5:30. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Vicky Smith at orchids@cruzio.com if you plan to attend.

Refreshments

Refreshments this month will be provided by Lupe Allen, Fred Valentine, Marnie Goodfriend, Chenhao Hsu, Linda Locatelli. Thank you and don't forget to get your free raffle ticket!

Opportunity Table

Mary will provide the opportunity table.

Speaker Bio



Mary Gerritsen, Ph.D. is an independent biotechnology consultant who has been growing orchids (mostly species) on and off for more than 30 years, and since relocating to the San Francisco Bay area in 1997, started a collection of small cool growing miniature species such as Masdevallias, Porroglossums, Lepanthes and other assorted tiny gems. She also has a second intermediate greenhouse, filled with larger species such as Angraecoids, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Laelias, Phalaenopsis and Bulbophyllums. She loves to see orchids growing *in situ*, and has

made it her mission over the last few years to see as many as possible, with trips to see and photograph orchids (and other flora as well) in Canada, many parts of the USA and Mexico, and countries in Central America (Costa Rica, Panama), South America (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela), South East Asia (Borneo, southern and southwestern China, Sulawesi, northern Thailand, Papua New Guinea), western Australia, Europe (Crete, Cyprus, Germany, Mallorca, Rhodes and Sicily) as well as South Africa and Madagascar.

She is the co-author of several botanical books: *Masdevallias*, *Gems of the Orchid World*; *Calochortus*, *Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives*; *A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species*; *A Bay Area Guide to Orchids and their Culture*; and the *American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture*, with fellow San Francisco Orchid Society Member and well known photographer, Ron Parsons.

Mary frequently lectures to orchid societies in the San Francisco Bay area, and on occasion, nearby Southern California, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona and sometimes even further afield (Missouri, Kansas, Canada). She is on the board of directors of the Orchid Digest, the chief operating officer and treasurer of the Orchid Conservation Alliance, and is also a member of the American Orchid Society, the San Francisco Orchid Society, the Peninsula Orchid Society and the Pleurothallid Alliance.

Upcoming Events

May 3 - 5: Gold Country Orchids Spring Open House. May 3 & 4, 9 am - 5 pm; May 5, 10 - 4 pm. Paph Paradise will have plants for sale too! See flyer for more information.

May 4 - 5: Carmel Valley Garden Show, 10-4 pm, Hidden Valley Music Seminars, Carmel Valley Village.

May 18 -19: D & D Flowers & Tiny Jungle Spring Sale 9:00 am to 3 pm, 169 1st Avenue, Daly City, CA 94014. Click [HERE](#) for directions.

May 11: Orchid Society of California "Mother's Day Weekend Orchid Show & Sale". Lakeside Park Garden Center Nursery, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, CA. Judging is being held on May 11, 2019 at 9 a.m.

June 7: SCOS General Meeting. Program TBA soon.

July ?: SCOS Greenhouse Tour. Details TBA soon.

July 12 - 14: Cal-Orchid's Summer Hummer Open House. 9 am – 5 pm. This weekend is recognized around the world as a very special Open House opportunity

at all Santa Barbara area orchid nurseries. Cal-Orchid loves a party, so we host a select number of vendors that are rarely found at any other orchid shows.

July 20 - 21: Orchids in the Park. County Fair Building, "Hall of Flowers", Golden Gate Park. Website: <http://sforchidsinthepark.org/>

August: SCOS Annual BBQ and Silent Auction. Details coming soon.



Orchid Education

Spring is here and our orchids are ready to grow! [Monthly Checklist for May.](#)

AOS corner

Visit this link to view prerecorded webinars available to everyone (including nonmembers) at [Webinars](#).

Photo Gallery - Show & Tell

Photos by Cheri Wagner



Masd.coccinea 'Blanca' AM/AOS





Paph. Fumi's Delight



Paph. micranthum



Bulb. odoratissimum





Sederia japonica







Our mailing address is:

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