



# San Diego County Orchid Society

Volume 137

June 2010

[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

## **SDCOS General Meeting**

**June 1, 2010 6:00 p.m.**

## **Pot Luck Awards Dinner**

We have changed the Awards Banquet to a Pot Luck Dinner. Giving the awards at the Pot Luck Dinner will allow us to save about \$1,500.00. We have been working hard to cut expenses this year. With the success of the Spring Show, we are nearing the break-even point for the year (no small feat for a nonprofit orchid society in this economy)! For this year's Dinner, every SDCOS member may choose to bring something from any of the following categories:

Main Course – always need more of these

Vegetables

Salad

Bread & Butter – or rolls

Dessert

Wine, beer, and water will be provided. Don't forget to bring serving utensils and a trivet if you need one, or bring your cake or casserole pre-sliced. The speakers will be Paul and Ann Tuskes, who will be reviewing the show in Photos. We will save the Plant Opportunity Table and Plant Sales for the July meeting. If you have any questions, please call Steve Mallory @619-405-0412 or email at [oborchids@gmail.com](mailto:oborchids@gmail.com). Hope to see you all at our Pot Luck Awards Dinner!

## San Diego County Orchid Society

Purpose: To promote interest in orchids and their cultivation, to educate by exchanging information and experiences related to successful orchid culture, and to support the conservation of orchids in the wild.

### Board of Directors

President: [David Brown](#)  
 First VP: [Steve Mallory](#)  
 Second VP: [Bruce Berg](#)  
 Treasurer: [Lynn Ford](#)  
 Secretary: [Dave Hoffmaster](#)  
 Directors: [Bob Clark](#)  
[Christopher Croom](#)  
[Kevin Rynearson](#)

Past President: [Genie Hammond](#)

### Meetings

San Diego Orchid Society meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Casa Del Prado in Balboa Park.

Novice Class: 6:30 PM, Room 104

General Meeting: 7:30 PM, Room 101

### Newsletter Entries

If you have monthly meetings, classifieds, submissions of interest, photos, or announcements related to orchids, please contact Christopher Croom at (619) 583-3804 or [batescroom@cox.net](mailto:batescroom@cox.net).

### Advertisers

Please contact Lynn Ford at (619) 283-4172 or [lynnford10@earthlink.net](mailto:lynnford10@earthlink.net).

Information for the July newsletter must be submitted by June 15.

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## Orchid Dates to Remember

June 1, 6:30 p.m

### **SDCOS Novice Meeting**

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

June 1, 7:30 p.m

### **SDCOS General Meeting**

First Tuesday of the month

Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

June 2

### **Palomar Orchid Society Meeting**

Culture class at 6:30; meeting at 7:30

First Wednesday of the month

The Carlsbad Woman's Club

3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad

Melana Walding (760) 295-7228

June 3, 7:00 PM

### **SDCOS Board Meeting**

Normally, the Thursday following the General Meeting (usually the first Thursday of the month; second Friday of the month in rare cases)

Balboa Park, Rm. 104

June 5

### **SDCOS Species Group Meeting**

First Saturday of the month

Paul or Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

June 16

### **Cymbidium Society Meeting**

Regular meeting, third Wednesday of month

Culture class at 6:30, Meeting at 7:00 PM

The Carlsbad Woman's Club

3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad (858) 748-8355

June 18

### **San Diego Zoo's Orchid Odyssey**

Third Friday of the month

10 AM-2 PM (orchid greenhouse is open)

Janette Gerrity (619) 231-1515 ext. 4306

June 19

### **Orchid Auction**

Orchid Society of Southern California

Doors open at 1:00pm

Auction starts at 2:00pm

221 South 6th Street, Burbank, CA 91501

Free admission

[www.orchidssc.org/osscauction.aspx](http://www.orchidssc.org/osscauction.aspx)

July 9-11

### **30th Santa Barbara Orchid Estate**

### **International Orchid Fair**

Earl Warren Showgrounds

[www.orchidfair.com](http://www.orchidfair.com)

*If you have any announcements that you would like to include contact [batescroom@cox.net](mailto:batescroom@cox.net).*



*Laelia flava*, a prime example of a Brazilian rupicolous orchid. Photo by Eowyn Bates.

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- ~ Free Zoo Skyfari
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 Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

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Your membership supports our plant and animal collections and  
 includes a monthly visit to our Orchid Odyssey on the third Friday of  
 each month from 10am until 2pm.

## San Diego County Orchid Society Membership



We invite you to join the  
 San Diego County Orchid  
 Society! Receive this  
 newsletter and many  
 other benefits, including a  
 holiday party and a free  
 orchid at the end of the  
 year!

To join, please send your check for \$20 for an  
 individual membership or \$25 for a dual  
 membership, payable to SDCOS , to:

**San Diego County Orchid Society**  
**P.O. Box 161020**  
**San Diego, CA 92176**

For further details, contact  
[membership@sdorchids.com](mailto:membership@sdorchids.com)

## Help Hotline

The SDCOS offers this service to members who seek cultural information about their orchids. Here are some friendly hobbyists with a great deal of experience about certain types of orchids, and they have kindly volunteered to answer your questions.

**Cattleyas, Oncidium/Odonts, Vandaceous**  
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Ann Tuskes (858) 274-5829

**Phalaenopsis, Cattleyas, Dendrobiums**  
Bob Swanson (619) 465-2297

**Vandas, Ascocendas**  
Edith and Leno Galvan (619) 441-7503

**Encyclias, Epidendrums, Laelias**  
[Christopher Croom](#) (619) 583-3804

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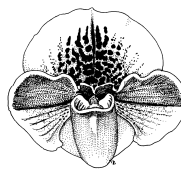
**Cymbidiums**  
Loren Batchman— [casa@orquideas.com](mailto:casa@orquideas.com)

**Northeast County, all types**  
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**San Diego Central**  
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Fred Tomaschke (619) 276-3235

**San Diego East County, all types**  
Bud Close (619) 444-8839

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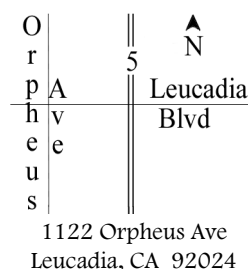
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## Monthly Report on AOS Judging at Quail Gardens

By: Helmut Rohrl

Judging at the Encinitas site (Quail Gardens, Administration (Ecke) Building) begins at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of each month. The facility opens at 6:30 pm. Anyone interested in orchids is encouraged and welcome at the sessions. Visitors may join the judging teams at their tables, but cannot participate in the judging process. Anyone who wants to exhibit plants for judging but is unable to bring the plants to Quail Gardens, please contact one of the local judges or have others bring the plants to the facility.

At the May 1, 2010 Encinitas session thirteen cultivars were shown.

Betty Kelepecz presented:

*Maxillaria mungoschraderi* with 35 flowers on 35 inflorescences; the natural spread of the flowers was 3.2 cm; all segments white, distally suffused light green; lip marked brown, distally yellow. CBR/AOS.

Loren Batchman showed:

*Sarcochilus hartmannii* with 33 flowers and 32 buds on 6 inflorescences; the natural spread of the flowers was 2.6 cm; all segments white.

Fred Clarke brought in 3 plants:

*Paphiopedilum* Misty Dell (Magic Lantern x *dele-natii*) with 1 flower on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 10.6 cm; sepals and petals are white, heavily overlaid and striped purple; the pouch is white, overlaid purple. AM/AOS

*Promeneia* Cachaca (Florafest Cheetah x Norman Gaunt) with 25 flowers and 1 bud on 26 inflorescences; the natural spread of the flowers was 3.2 cm; all segments yellow; sepals and petals barred light brown; the lip is proximally dark brown. HCC/AOS.

*Cattleya schilleriana* with 17 flowers on 3 inflorescences; the natural spread of the flowers was 10.5 cm; the sepals and petals are dark brown; the lip has a white mid lobe heavily striped dark purple and side lobes purple. AM/AOS.

Eric Goo showed 5 plants:

*Phalaenopsis* Mem. David Goo (Sweet Memory x Zuma Garnet) with 6 flowers on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 6.5 cm; sepals and petals are yellow, heavily overlaid purple; the lip is purple.

*Phalaenopsis* (Walnut Valley Freckles x Brother Pirate King) with 15 flowers on 1 branched inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 6.9 cm; sepals and petals are yellow, overlaid and densely spotted dark maroon; the lip is dark purple. AM/AOS.

*Doritaenopsis* (Dung Nguyen x Brother Lawrence) with 8 flowers on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 6.3 cm; all segments yellow, spotted brown.

*Doritaenopsis* Debrija Gold (*P.* Brother Pepride x Debrija Bronze) with 4 flowers and 1 bud on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 6.5 cm; all segments yellow, suffused and spotted red-brown.

*Phalaenopsis* (Salu Peoker x Champion Plus) with six flowers on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 7.8 cm; all segments yellow, irregularly marked blood red.

G. J. Ho presented

*Paphiopedilum* Fumi's Delight (*micranthum* x *armeniaceum*) with 1 flower on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 8.2 cm; sepals and petals yellow, tessellated light brown; the pouch is light yellow.

K. Klausing had

*Cattleya schilleriana* with 3 flowers on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 12.8 cm; the sepals and petals are dark brown; the lip has a white mid lobe heavily striped dark purple and side lobes purple.

*Laelia sincorana* with 3 flowers on 1 inflorescence; the natural spread of the flowers was 9.0 cm; sepals and petals are medium purple; the lip is white, overlaid and veined dark purple.

## NOMINATIONS FOR 2010-2011 SDCOS BOARD

The nominating committee is happy to make the following recommendations for the SDCOS board for 2010-2011:

**President:**

David Brown (continuing)

**1st Vice-President:**

Bruce Berg (replacing Steve Mallory)

**2nd Vice-President:**

Scott LaBouff (replacing Bruce Berg)

**Secretary:**

Dave Hoffmaster (continuing)

**Treasurer:**

Carol Berg (replacing Lynn Ford)

**Director (through June 2011):**

Kevin Rynearson (continuing)

**Director (through June 2012):**

Christopher Croom (continuing)

**Director (through June 2013):**

Bob Clark (second term)

**Past President:**

Genie Hammond (continuing)

Steve Mallory and Lynn Ford will be leaving the board, and the society wishes to thank them both very much for their service to the SDCOS! Bob Clark's term as a director will end in June 2010, and he has volunteered to serve an additional three-year term. If this slate is approved, Scott LaBouff and Carol Berg will join the SDCOS board for the first time. It's always good to see members get involved in helping to run the society, and both Scott and Carol should be commended for volunteering to fulfill these important roles.

The recommendations of the nominating committee require approval by the society membership. At the general meeting in June, the chair of the nominating committee will make those recom-

mendations formally and ask for a vote of approval. Other nominations may be made before the vote, either by contacting the chair of the nominating committee or from the floor at the general meeting. Board members for 2010-2011 will be sworn in at the general meeting in July.

Submitted respectfully,

SDCOS Nominating Committee

Ron Kaufmann, chair, Tom Biggart, Edith Galvan, Peter Tobias

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## In Search of Wild Orchids

### Mission Trails Regional Park and Oakzanita Peak

By Nico Goossen and Bruce Berg



### Mission Trails Hike

On a beautiful, sunny morning on May 8, a small group of our members went on a hike along the San Diego River in the Mission Trails Regional Park in search of two of our native orchids. Leaders Nico Goossens and Bruce Berg were joined by Carol Berg, Dave Hoffmaster, Helen Pfister, Scott La Bouff, Val Mays, and Renata Schmidt. The hike was actually set up as two separate loops, in search of two different growing conditions. Since our hike was to enter park determined sensitive plant recovery area, we were required to obtain a special entry permit from the rangers.



The first hike was along the San Diego River in search of *Epipactis gigantea*, the stream orchid, which likes to grow where its roots can be

kept wet by a constant source of moving water. Initially it may be expected that this colony may be growing in the river water, but in this case, the plants were growing in an area above the river where there was a natural seep. Plants were all growing in an area about fifteen feet by eight feet at the base of a Sycamore tree, which had found a spot in a crack at the base of a big boulder. Fresh water was seeping from this spot and slowly draining into the river some three to four feet lower. The group counted eighty-one growths at various stages of spiking. Some seed pods were set, but generally the growths were at the early stage of blooming. Bruce and Nico observed that from previous study of this location that the plants were doing well but not necessarily getting bigger.

This orchid is dormant in the winter and survives as rhizomes and root stock underneath the soil. The species has been brought into general cultivation and compared to ones available commercially, this plant's growths were somewhat separated and sparse. Commercially this plant is either easily obtained by division, or established by seed in flask. This species is also generally known to self-pollinate. The group explored upstream and downstream where they could find access and found no other colonies of the plant. We suspect that this may be one single plant, or, since Renata observed that there were some color marking variations, these may all be seed plants originally from one clone. This observation was emphasized by the fact that this colony was growing only in a fresh source of water seeping out of the ground and that the river was generally choked with stringy algae which blooms in a nutrient-rich source of runoff water. The San Diego River at this point is downstream from the communities of Santee, Lakeside, and all other points upstream to Julian. Additionally the river bank was choked with rag weed and Bermuda grass. *Epipactis* does best in a more acidic soil or water base. And if the fact that self-pollination is at work, the vector insect may not be present.



The second hike was up along the hillside in the midst of chaparral on the Climber's Loop Trail which ascends about 400 vertical feet from the trailhead along the Father Junípero Serra drive and is about one mile in length. This loop is favored by rock climbers who practice on the open cliff face and boulders in this park. Climbing anchors can be seen hammered into the rock all over the cliffs. The orientation of this hillside is north to northwest, which gives this location quite a bit of protection from the exposure of the sun.

We were looking for one of the species of the genus *Piperia*, the chaparral orchid. This genus is dormant in winter, emerges with two to three basal leaves and withers at anthesis,



which means that leaves are generally gone when in bloom. We initially mistook the leaves of the Mariposa lily, which roughly resembles our orchids, but the flower

scape does not. It was generally observed by Bud Close in his thesis 'The Ecology of San Diego County Orchids' presented in 1969 that our native orchids may not emerge unless there is a sufficient rain of at least 2 inches for proper percolation of the soil nutrients and companion plants' alkaloid inhibitors. Also this genus is highly dependent in a close relationship with mycorrhiza (symbiotic relationship with the fungus) to initially germinate the seeds and then develop bulbs, which does not make it easy to bring under cultivation. While the views from the trail were spectacular, and this season's precipitation brought out abundant wildflowers, the group did not find any *Piperia* orchids.

## Oakzanita Peak Hike

The following week on May 15, 2010, Nico Goossen, Bruce Berg, Carol Berg, and Helen Pfister hiked to Oakzanita Peak, in search of orchids in the genus *Piperia*. Oakzanita Peak is located in the southern portion of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, one of California's largest state parks. Tipai natives, who summered in this area at least 7000 years before the Spanish arrived, called the area Ah-ha-Kwe-ah-mac, variously translated as "the place where it rains" or "beyond the clouds", in reference to the average of 35 inches of precipitation this mountain area receives during the year. Rains come mainly through the winter months with occasional summer storms, but can be dry for over eight months out of the year. The weather is generally mild and warm, but can be very hot and dry. Winters occasionally bring a blanket of snow which does not last on the ground for more than a day or two.

Nico accompanied Robert Lauri and Peter Tobias here in May of 2008 for a research survey of this orchid. Robert is a Ph.D. candidate studying and presenting a thesis on California native orchids. His research includes this colony of *Piperia leptopetala* that is resurfacing after the devastating fires of 2003 and 2007. That year, the survey initially found 42 plants in March, browsed to 24 plants in May, and gone by June. Apparently these orchids are in a precarious balance with the local fauna after such a devastating disturbance. We're not sure if they are being eaten by rodents or deer.

Our hike started at the parking turnout at mile 3.7 along Hwy 79 in Cuyumaca Rancho State Park, barely a half mile from the park's southern boundary. From the parking lot we viewed the rocky outcrop of the peak looming some 1100 feet above us. Our approach would be to follow the East Mesa Fire Road around the back and ascend the more gradual Oakzanita Peak Trail from the meadows of East Mesa. Vegetation has rebounded the last few years. We started walking among the chamise, and

Continued on next page....

Continued from previous page....

then graduated to blooming *Ceanothus*, painting the slopes blue and showing why it is commonly called wild lilac. On the northern slopes of Descanso creek the charred skeletons of interior live oak, *Quercus oxyadenia*, were resprouting and on the southern slopes our black oak, *Quercus kelloggii*, were also showing new growth. Numerous wildflowers and blooming shrubs kept us occupied all the way up to the peak. While having lunch, Helen spotted a Southwestern Spotted Rattlesnake crawl out from under the large rock that we were all sitting on. Originally, the snake started out about three feet long and eventually reached giant proportions as the story was retold.

The purpose of this year's revisit was to look at the revegetative activities on the mountain and to specifically try to locate this colony of *Piperia leptopetala* plants. Partly off the Oakzanita Peak Trail our group found the colony of 120 plants in various stages of growth with some plants barely emerging with just one leaf and others in spike but none in bloom. Some plants showed evidence of being eaten. One plant was even found growing in the trail where it was being trampled by hikers, who were unaware of what was on the trail. Plants were found around or under growths of Manzanita shrubs which also were recovering from the fires with growths not yet 2 feet tall. This rather open exposure shows the tenacious attempt of these orchids to survive.

Nico and Bruce are planning to repeat this hike on Sunday, June 6, to see if we can find these plants in bloom. The hike is about 7 to 8 miles round trip and is considered to be an easy to moderate level hike. They invite interested members to join them; however the group will be limited to a manageable size. There was a sign at the trailhead that dogs were not allowed. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Nico Goossens at [Licoorchid@AOL.com](mailto:Licoorchid@AOL.com) (760) 942-4143, or Bruce Berg, [B2berg@yahoo.com](mailto:B2berg@yahoo.com), (619) 258-1963.

## 2011 Spring Show Theme Ideas Wanted!

Dave Hoffmaster and Bruce Berg have volunteered again to be co-chairs for the Spring Show next year. The Show dates will be March 24-27, 2011 at the Scottish Rite building.

One of the first things they will need is a theme for the show. There will be a prize of a year's subscription to Orchid Digest magazine for the theme topic selected. Keep in mind that it is helpful if the theme would give people preparing display booths creative options for the display of orchids.

The deadline for submission is July 6 at the General Meeting. Members are encouraged to either add their suggestion on the clipboard provided at the back table or to contact Bruce ([b2berg@yahoo.com](mailto:b2berg@yahoo.com) 619.258.1963).

Dave and Bruce would also like to hear from members who have any suggestions to make improvements over the last show.

## July Orchid Fair SDCOS Trip to Santa Barbara!

On Saturday, July 10, we will have a charter bus to take us to Santa Barbara to visit the Santa Barbara Orchid Fair. (We will also try to arrange to stop by SBOE and Cal Orchid.) We will leave Balboa Park at 8:00 am and return between 9:00 or 10:00 pm. We will stop at a park and ride in Carlsbad and pick up some orchid enthusiasts from the north county orchid clubs. The cost is \$30.00 per person and there is room for 57 passengers. First come, first served. I think this will be a very fun trip and I hope that you will make plans to join us.

If you are interested, please contact me via email at [president@sdorchids.com](mailto:president@sdorchids.com) or give me a call at 619-294 5925.

Happy Orchiding,  
David Brown

## ***Laelia flava* and *L. sanguiloba*: The Best Rupics**

By Christopher Croom

Picking your favorite *anything* in the orchid world is never easy, because there seem to be exceptions to every rule, and as soon as you have your heart set on one orchid being your *favorite* something else flutters into your life and captures your fancy. Ficklety, thy name is “orchid lover.”

But when it comes to *Laelia flava*, one of the few *Laelias* still being called “*Laelia*” (as opposed to the name “*Sophranitis*,” which makes the orchid seem like it will always be red and small, or “*Hadrolaelia*,” which Wade Bogren aptly points out sounds like a dinosaur name) and *L. sanguiloba*, its similarly-statured redder cousin, I can firmly state that of all the Brazilian rupicolous *Laelias*, these two are my favorites.

For those readers who might be unfamiliar with the term “Brazilian rupicolous *Laelias*,” allow me the opportunity to indulge you about one of the most delightful groups of miniature and compact orchids. These are all from Brazil, as the name would imply, there are a couple dozen species of them (or more), and they all have among the hardest leaves and pseudobulbs of any orchids. Brazilian rupicolous *Laelia* species range in sizes between 1” and around 1’, and have flowers from between 1/2” and almost 3” in diameter with a classic “*Laelia*” shape, although with a more acutely ruffled lip tip and heavier veination, and a slightly different way the lip wraps around the column (less tubular).

The “rupicolous” part is perhaps the most in-

teresting: these Brazilian *Laelias* are found extensively (and sometimes exclusively) growing on rocks in the wild, usually in the states of Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, and São Paulo. Instead of the velamen on their roots attaching to tree bark, the velamen on the roots of a rupicolous orchid attach just as easily to rock surfaces. Another word that is used in the literature as a noun instead of an adjective to describe plants that grow like this is “lithophyte,” from the roots “litho-” ‘stone’ and “-phyte” ‘on’. I’ve written about rupicolous orchids before and particularly like to have them in my collection, because then I know what to do with the cool rocks I collect in places like Amboy and the Salton Sea. (Nothing’s better than a spectacular geologic sample with an even more interesting orchid growing on it.)

The other great thing about the Brazilian rupicolous *Laelias* is that they all have virtually the same rules: almost all of them grow outdoors, year-round, in all but the most inhospitable areas of San Diego County and like full sun if you live within about 15 miles of the coast (with the possible exception of *L. harpophylla*, which has very slender pseudobulbs that cannot store enough water to get it through the hottest of sunny days). All of these *Laelias* are excellent candidates for mounting on cork, shingles, or sticks, and all of them can be grown in pots with 1/2” chunks of washed gravel. They seem to not need too much fertilizer, blooming regularly without it, and they like to dry out quickly between waterings (but also appreciate regular, almost daily watering except in the coolest months of winter). While it might take some time to establish them (seriously about 1-2 years for the

Continued on next page....

average civilian hobbyist), once established, Brazilian rupicolous *Laelias* are tough, bug- and disease- and crash-resistant little guys. I even have a *L. milleri* and an *L. lucasiana* (the latter is the only fragrant member of the group I know of, with cinnamon-tinged blooms) mounted on a piece of lace rock that I dropped 20' down onto an asphalt parking lot (orchid-side down, of course, just like buttered bread), grew back to pristine condition, and then ran over with my car. Both plants are still alive and remarkably healthy despite my best efforts.

Now I don't always like the flashiest, most ostentatious orchids. (Botanists like to use the euphemism "showy" here.) But waiting two years to establish and bloom a *Laelia flava* is an exercise in patience that would build character for virtually any orchidist. Mine is bearing seven flowers on a single spike, which is a tremendous reproductive structure-to-overall organism size ratio, as the plant is only about 6" tall, and *L. flava* is one of the *bigger* Brazilian rupicolous orchids. The quality of the yellow in these pure yellow blooms is absolutely astounding. (They remind me of a lady I met at a recent orchid show who told me she liked "canary yellow" and wanted an easy grower, so when I suggested *Dendrobium chrysotoxum*, she somewhat angrily replied "Where did you get the idea I like *gold*? I *told* you I like *canary yellow*.")

*Laelia sanguiloba* also has a particularly richly colored bloom, and some regard it as the reddest of all non-*Sophronitis* *Laelias*, although *L. milleri* truly takes the ruby crown in this arena. The *sanguilobas* I've seen range from having a similar pallor to *L. cinnabarina* (somewhere on the orange to light red spec-

trum), to being a rich orange like *L. harpophylla*, to being almost pale pink in the middle of the sepals and petals with electric red or even bluish outlines. *L. sanguiloba*'s color can be somewhat reminiscent of *Cochlidoda noezliana*: you know it's an incredible color somewhere on the "red" spectrum (long wavelengths), but you just can't describe how red or orange it is, and you definitely can't call it "salmon."

Both *L. flava* ("*flava*" refers to 'yellow', not Flavor Flav, in case you were wondering, as I initially did) and *L. sanguiloba* can be grown in the same conditions. I bloomed my *flava* without growing it in direct sun and restricted the amount of water the plant was getting a little, while I'm currently growing my *sanguiloba* seedling on a cork mount under my *Epi. porpax*, as they both (might) occur in the same habitat, and it gets 3-4 hours of direct afternoon sunshine. I started off growing my *flava* at similar light levels but had to move it when it got sunburned to a shadier location; it is important to only grow your lithophytes in full sun after they are completely established to avoid this.

In sum, I can't imagine an easier group of orchids to grow than the Brazilian rupicolous *Laelias*. They are not generally fussy about water quality, can handle a huge range of temperatures and lighting conditions (generally speaking), bloom reliably, and many have extremely vivid colors. While they are not generally fragrant, they more than make up for this deficiency by being extremely versatile in the kinds of growing media you can cultivate them on. For further information, try this website: <http://www.orchidworks.com/brazil/howtogrow.html>



## San Diego County Orchid Society December Board Meeting Minutes

As of the printing of this Newsletter, the SDCOS board has yet to approve the May 2010 Minutes. May's minutes, along with June's, if approved, will be printed in the July 2010 SDCOS Newsletter.



*Laelia sanguiloba*. Photo by Mauro Rosim.

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## Concerning Plants for Judging Sessions

By: Helmut Rohrl

The Pacific South Judging Center conducts each month three judging sessions in the Los Angeles and San Diego area. They are:

**Encinitas** (Quail Gardens) on the 1st Monday at 7 pm.

**San Marino** (Huntington Botanical Gardens) on the 2nd Saturday at 10 am.

**Long Beach** (Whaley Park) on the 4th Saturday at 7 pm.

Visitors—with or without plants—are welcome anytime. If a member of the SDCOS wishes to have flowering plants judged at one of these sessions but is unable to take the plants to the judging facility, please contact one of the following AOS judges:

Loren Batchman, Solana Beach, 858-755-7572

Helmut Rohrl, La Jolla, 858-452-0976

Ann & Paul Tuskes, Claremont, 858-274-5829

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## Letter From the Editor

Dear SDCOS,

I regret neglecting to mention Dave Hoffmaster as providing the necessary help and leadership to help get the 2010 Show at the Scottish Rite Center off the ground in the May Newsletter; someone pointed out to me that he was also a show chair right after I sent it off to the printers. Moreover, the Newsletter likewise forgot Harold Koopowitz's last name in the front-page piece on the May general meeting; while he is a one-name brand like Cher, Madonna, or Beyoncé, Harold is not legally recognized that way. Suffice it to say he's the biggest "Harold" in the orchid world bar none and an authority particularly on every pouted orchid. Also, I'm sorry that minor oversight issues lead me to not putting in his last name.

I also have some extremely sad news: Joe Alesi just passed away on May 22nd. He was an instrumental part of our Society, and 50% of the hospitality committee, which he has hosted for as long as I've been in the Society. The donuts you chow on every meeting and the punch you drink came from Joe and his wife, Rose, and they also volunteered in numerous other ways for the Society, including putting together floral arrangements for shows. Please share your condolences with Rose and offer your support to her in this time of terrible loss.

### Contact Information:

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[batescroom@cox.net](mailto:batescroom@cox.net)

Please check out the Nominating Committee's recommendations in this issue of the Newsletter, as the vote for new board members may or may not take place at the June meeting (someone mentioned some confusion about this issue to me), but it will definitely be happening soon. Also, don't forget we have a mini-show coming up, and someone will need to replace Tom Biggart as mini-show

chair.

Happy Growing,  
Christopher