



## FCOS President's message - for June 2017 newsletter

Hopefully you have had time to start transplanting your orchids this year. Remember that besides watering and fertilizing on a regular basis, you also need to make sure the media they are growing in is in good shape. If you are growing in a regular bark mix, you should plan to check them every year to make sure the media has not broken down. Your orchid roots need both moisture and air to grow well, and when the media breaks down the amount of air that can get to the roots decreases. Media that has broken down starts to look more like mud which in my opinion leads to root suffocation, and a decline in the health of your orchids. So if your orchids are in need of transplanting, now is a good time to change the media for many of the genera. There are some genera that do better if transplanted at other times of the year, so if you are not sure please ask about your orchids at the next meeting. I know in many instances when I transplant an orchid, it ends up going from one pot to two pots to fit in all the growths.

If you are doing the same and ending up with more than one pot of the same orchid, please consider donating one of the pots to the FCOS silent auction which will be held at our July meeting. That fundraiser enables us to continue to have great speakers from outside our area and helps keep our annual dues low. If you do not have orchids to donate but have other items you think would be appropriate for the silent auction, please bring it/them along. There will be more info about the July BBQ-fundraiser in next month's newsletter.

Hope you can make it to **the June 8 meeting**.

Chris

### Speaker for June 8, 2017

Angelic Nguyen will speak on one of her favorite topics, Pendulous Cymbidiums, discussing the breeding, explaining why they are pendulous and why their flower spikes often have smaller but many more flowers than those of standard cymbidiums. With her own experience growing hundreds of varieties of pendulous cyms, she will highlight the ease of growing and advantages of these beautiful and usually later-blooming Cymbidiums, illustrating the talk with dozens of great photos and informative.

Angelic Nguyen is an artist and designer who has been growing orchids for about 20 years. Varieties she grows include hybrids and species Cattleyas, Cymbidium, Phalanopsis, Laelias, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Lady Sleepers, Lycastes, Bulbophylums, Vandas and many others orchids. Recently she has also been concentrating on photography and has taken thousands of orchid pictures. She started her company, Orchid Design, in 1999 and has been participating in the Pacific Orchid Exposition, the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, the San Diego International Orchid Show, the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show,

and many other shows. She has been involved in many activities to support orchid societies with design and printing for postcards, brochures and flyers, and has also served as President, show chair, and as a board member of several Bay Area orchid societies. She is currently the show chair for the SFOS's summer show, "Orchids in the Park". Angelic has also been giving orchid presentations and skill sessions for orchid and garden societies, using her experience and large selection of her photographs. She has spoken on a variety of orchid topics, including the 19th World Orchid Conference, Fragrant Orchids, Unusual Cymbidiums, Pendulous Cymbidiums, "Cattleya, the Queen of Flowers", Laelia Species, and "The fascinating Orchids of Vietnam". You can visit her website [www.ORCHIDesign.com](http://www.ORCHIDesign.com) or email [angelic@orchidesign.com](mailto:angelic@orchidesign.com); you can also find [Angelic Nguyen](#) and [Orchid Design](#), and be her friend on Facebook!

### May 2017 FCOS Meeting Speaker Notes

Dan Newman who owns and operates Hanging Gardens in Pacifica was our guest speaker at the May FCOS meeting. He spoke to the group about *Dendrobiums*, Jewels of the East. *Dendrobiums* are the second largest genera with an estimated 1,500 species. The genera as a whole has a wide range with species found in India, Nepal, S. China, SE Asia, Japan, Korean Peninsula, Australia, and New Zealand. Some species are found in the Himalayan highland which has differing temperatures through out the year while others living in New Guinea have similar conditions during the year. The species are divided into at least 50 different Sections. Dan's talk and slide presentation was organized based on some of these Sections, with him showing a number of photos of *Dendrobium* species within each of the Sections he showed. In most instances the species in each section required similar temperature and humidity conditions through out the year to grow and bloom at their peak. The Section *Dendrobium* has about 50-60 species. This group needs a dry, cool winter to bloom at their best. There are about 10 species within the Section Callista. Most of these species also need a dry winter period. Section Latouria has about 50 species and they need water through out the year and warm conditions, but the roots need to dry rapidly, so need to grow in an open media. Section Spatulata also known as antelope dendrobiums, are found in lower elevations where the temperature is warm and humid. There are about 50-60 species in Section Calcarifera. These are mainly tropical (warmer growers) but a few require cooler conditions. They mainly have pendulant blooms. Section Pedilonum has about 80 species. Growing conditions for species in this Section vary from warm and humid to cool depending on where they are growing in nature. The 40 or so species in Section Calypochilus also vary in where they are found in nature with some in intermediate conditions and some living in high elevation (cool) cloud forests. The species in Section Oxyglossum mainly live in cool to intermediate conditions in New Guinea. Section Cuthbertsonia only has three (3) species with all of them being found in New Guinea and Fiji. They have long lasting blooms and require good water (low mineral content) and cool conditions.

### **Upcoming Events**

**June 10:** Orchid Digest Speakers' Day "Orchids from Around the World", 12am-8pm, Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens, San Marino.

**July 14-16:** SBOE and Cal-Orchid Summer Open House. Just a heads up. More information next month.

**July 22-23, 2017** **San Francisco Orchid Society** will be holding its annual **Orchids in the Park** Summer show and sale the weekend of **July 22 and 23, 2017**, at the **Hall of Flowers**,

**County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park. San Francisco – California.**

Please invite your friends to this joyful event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/310886606008874/>

You can be a part of our show by volunteer at:

<http://signup.com/go/3SZoBA>

Tickets & information at:

<http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/orch.../orchids-in-the-park/>

A discount admission for groups of 10 or more arriving by bus available.

Follow us at: <https://www.facebook.com/SFOrchidSociety/>

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SANTA BARBARA ORCHID ESTATE

**SUMMER OPEN HOUSE**

**JULY 14-16, 2017**



**Orchids in the Park**  
 San Francisco Orchid Society's  
 Summer Show & Sale  
**July 22 & 23, 2017**  
**10 am - 5 pm**  
 San Francisco County Fair Building  
 (Hall of Flowers)  
 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way  
 Golden Gate Park - San Francisco

Demonstrations/Raffle

Admission:  
 \$5, Seniors \$4, under 16 free

[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)