



Five Cities Orchid Society

September 13, 2018

President's Message

I want to start by thanking those that sent in suggested theme names for our 2019 orchid show. At a recent show committee meeting, they made their decision on next year's show theme name. I will present the 2019 show theme name and the person who suggested the name at our September meeting. That person will receive \$50 worth of orchids which was donated by Rudy and Anne Bachmann of SLO Orchids.

I want to make sure you know about free information that is available on the American Orchid Society website. AOS has a large number of videos at <http://www.aos.org/orchids/aos-video-library.aspx>. They also host at least a monthly webinar that you can either watch live or at a later date after they post them on their website. The past webinars can be found at <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>. Some of their webinars are for AOS member only but their monthly Greenhouse Chats are open to everyone. For upcoming webinars you can go on their site and register in advance and they will email you a reminder of the upcoming webinar. You can even send in questions and photos in advance of the greenhouse chats and they might answer your questions during the presentation. The next greenhouse chat is September 8. During the webinar in August they discussed a number of topics and presented some information about fungal infections like root rot and included information on a number of different fungicides that could be used based on the type of symptoms observed.

Hope you are keeping your orchids happy. If not or you have questions about your orchids, please ask for help at the September meeting. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Chris

***** HINT *****

Plastic **orchid pots** are a staple of any orchid grower because repotting orchids is a regular and critical part of their health and beauty. Clear plastic orchid pots are popular for orchids in part because one can see what's going on with roots and moisture content. Orchid roots engage in photosynthesis and clear orchid pots make this possible. Additionally, some

orchids roots, most notably Phalaenopsis, will tend to stay in a clear pot where they will grow outside a dark colored pot. On the other hand, white plastic orchid pots look great with plants in them and are less susceptible to algae growth on the inside. Good drainage and multiple holes are critical for orchids because one wants to avoid roots standing in water or sopping wet media; airy environments

Program for September----Joe Ambriz

Ambrizkingdomofplants@gmail.com

Joe Ambriz has been growing and culturing Orchids and Tillandsia for over 15 years. In 2002, already with a growing enthusiasm and knowledge of veggie gardens and other plants around the house, Joe was given his first Cymbidium from his good friend Phil Watt which he ended up killing it. And knew I must try again. A year later Joe built a structure to house his quickly growing collection of Cymbidium's, Laelia's and Tillandsia.

In 2007 with a growing knowledge of orchid culture, veggie gardens and landscape design, along with some horticultural courses at City College, Joe started to work for 7 Day Nursery as an orchid buyer and nurseryman specialist. Joe became assistant manager at 7 Day Nursery doing plant design, landscape, home consultations and spreading his passion for plants, especially temperature tolerant Orchids, Tillandsia and a big interest in caudiciforms.

At 7 Day Nursery, Joe has created the largest Tillandsia inventory and collection for a retail store in the county. He speaks at business luncheons and for orchid, garden, and horticultural Societies. In 2016 Joe's collection outgrew his home's backyard and then his grandparent's backyard. When the opportunity arose, he took it and moved his collection to a greenhouse in Carpinteria, California which gave birth to his own small company 'Ambriz Kingdom of Plants' to spread his passion for Orchids, Tillandsia and the many other wonderful plants (especially Laelia anceps which make up the majority of his collection and breeding.)

Joe, for the past two years, has worked as 'foliage manager', designing the foliage layout for the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show that takes place in March in Santa Barbara. His first Orchid entered in a show was at the Santa Barbara International Orchid show and won best white cascading Cymbidium of the show. The plant was a Cymbidium Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascades'. He has won the show trophy as well as awarded a silver certificate from the American Orchid Society for his displays at the Santa Barbara Orchid Society show four years in a row as well as other first place ribbons, best Cattleyas and other fun awards, but truly grows orchids just for the fun of growing, creating,

SPEAKER NOTES FROM THE AUGUST 2018 FCOS MEETING.

The FCOS president Chris gave a presentation about a 12-day orchid tour in Ecuador that he and his wife Betsy took after the World Orchid Conference in November 2017. The tour was hosted by Ecuagenera and began and ended in Guayaquil. The tour covered about 1,200 miles in southern Ecuador. Their group was made up of folks from Europe, South America, Italy, Australia, and the US. Most days consisted of a short to long bus or van ride with many stops to walk along either the road or along trails looking for native orchids. We were able to see a wide variety of orchids and other plants including at least two orchid species that were recently seen for the first time and have not even been formally described or named. We also had the opportunity to visit Ecuagenera's three greenhouse complexes and see their estimated two million orchids that are growing either mounted or in pots.

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FYI

The following is the beginning of a very interesting article from the Orchid Digest, 2011. The article is much too long to print here. If you are interested in receiving it, let me know and I can email it to you.

ORCHIDS AND HUMMINGBIRDS: SEX IN THE FAST LANE

Part 1 of Orchids and Their Pollinators

CAROL SIEGEL

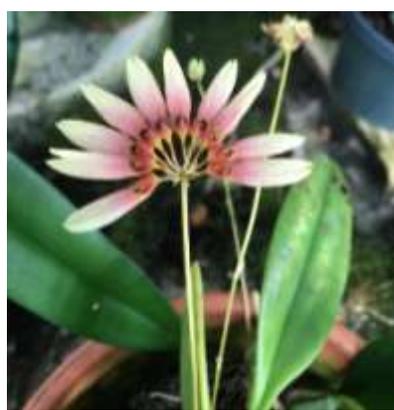
PART BULLY, ALL SWAGGER, hummingbirds are tiny bundles of ego and attitude with no humility

or fear. The smallest warm-blooded avian creatures, they hover like a helicopter, consume energy like a jet plane, and glitter in the sunlight like a precious jewel. It is fitting that this most magnificent evolutionary miracle should be a pollinator for the equally magnificent evolutionary miracle that is the orchid.

Hummingbirds are thought to have started their evolutionary path toward orchids after gobbling insects in mid-air. In the course of searching for insects and spiders inside flowers as well, they stumbled upon the delicious nectar set out to lure insect pollinators and so began their life as nectar feeders. Never looking back, they evolved the ability to hover efficiently to access the nectar bounty while the orchids evolved characteristics to make them even more irresistible to their new pollinators. A series of interlocking adaptations resulted in an incredibly fast, remarkably tiny little metabolic dynamo and some very distinctive-looking flowers locked together in a mutually beneficial dance.



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Divide and Repot



Thanks. Rudv

