

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to friends who might be interested in knowing about Five Cities Orchid Society and encourage them to subscribe at www.fcos.org.

A message from the President's potting bench.

High hopes that everyone is healthy and fairing well.

All of us want to keep our orchid society together and working for our members. Therefore, we are endeavoring to contact each of you to check in and determine from you what you want to see from your orchid society. If you haven't yet received a call to answer our survey, please feel free to reach out to us. A few members that I spoke with last week expressed interest in getting some bark and pots so that can repot orchids. If you live locally, give CalCoast Orchids a call. They will sell you orchids, pots and bark. They will even deliver locally. See their advertisement for their Mothers Day event below.

Originally, our April meeting was to be a panel of several of our members discussing Orchids: Best Practices. In absence of that meeting we decided to begin making our own series of YouTube orchid videos. We can share with our members how we grow and learn together what works, what doesn't work and what can we improve on.

In this first installment of videos, made by and for FCOS members, we want to look at where some of our members are growing their orchids. You will see some incredible greenhouse setups and plants that you will be envious of. Many of our members grow indoors, on windowsills, under lights and on patios. Orchid growers are always looking for specific grow areas and ways to optimize differences in light, temperature, and humidity. Even within a greenhouse there are microclimates that are designated growing spaces for specific genera of orchids. We hope the videos are informative and entertaining.

This links allow you to subscribe to the FCOS YouTube Channel and stay current on new videos as they are posted. So far, we have these videos to share with you.

Ed Lysek's Greenhouse: <https://youtu.be/j9NvFBNI0s0>

Eric Holdenda's Grow Areas: https://youtu.be/UDsw_N_7zW8

Chris Erhler's Grow Areas: <https://youtu.be/J4qPcd2UpCA>

Jeff Parham's Backyard: https://youtu.be/ii7n7gZh_kQ

We will continue to develop videos highlighting orchid best practices including videos on topics such as repotting, mounting and fertilizing. If you have any questions on any aspect of your orchids, or would like to share your Growing Areas on a video on the FCOS YouTube channel, please contact us.

Where do you grow your orchids? How have you been creative in establishing the proper growing environment?

Be well! - Jeff email: [Jeff Parham jsp1440@aol.com](mailto:Jeff.Parham@jsp1440@aol.com)

How about a walk down memory lane to an FCOS show from 1999 featuring our own Bob Asbell and Eric Holenda - photo courtesy of Chris Ehrler.



Orchid Pests and Diseases - many of you have asked for more information and here it is.

Sue Bottom is a regular contributor to the AOS Bulletin and other orchid magazines. She generously offered several of her articles to FCOS discussing orchid pests and diseases. She is a member of the St. Augustine, FL Orchid Society and here is a link to several of her articles.

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/culture-monthly-sue.htm>

We've had a really great response from FCOS members for our feature "What's Blooming Now". If you've not submitted photos before, now is your chance to email photos to Ed Lysek for next month's newsletter.



A *Tillandsia bergeri* from Joe Ambriz's visit. It is mounted on a piece of lava rock we picked up in Japan at the Sakurajima volcano which is continually erupting on the island. Ash was everywhere.

Photos are Judy and Chuck in Japan with lava rock, volcano and tillandias





A trio of *Masdevallia coccinea* from Jeffrey Thompson - and a little humor.

Stay home. Because if you die, your spouse will sell your orchids for the price you told them you paid for them.

And here are three *Phragmedediums* from Jeffrey Thompson *P. sedenii* – Candidium

– Long Fire –

and an unknown beauty





(Above 2 photos) *Cymbidium devonianum* grown and photographed by Chris Ehrler. Plant originally from India and purchased as part of an FCOS group order with the help of Dan Newman of Hanging Gardens. Our last order from India was held up due to government elections in India and now due to the Corona virus. No telling when our shipment will arrive!



More Chris Ehrlor orchids - upper left: *Cymbidium* Lillian Fujimoto 'New Horizon' x Memoria Amelia Earhart 'Elizabeth Hatfield', upper right: *Dracula psitticina* originally from Joe Parker' lower left: *Masdevallia caesia* and lower right: *Lepanthopsis acuminata*. Great plants and great photos!



***Rhctm.* ~Ladda Gold from Eric Holenda**



Dendrobium sulcatum from Eric Holenda



***Oda. Parade X George McMahon* from Eric Holenda**



***Dendrobium trantuani* from Eric Holenda**



***Phaph.* Mystic Contrast from Eric Holenda**



***Renanthera* Firecracker from Eric Holenda**



C. Casitas Spring Linden AM/AOS from Eric Holenda



A \$7.50 special purchased from Santa Barbara Orchid Estate several years ago as a small seedling - *Vanda suavis* X Taller Blue. A cool growing vanda that can take summer heat. Grown by Ed Lysek in Templeton



CAL COAST ORCHIDS

Mother's Day Orchid Promo

Pop Up Shop / Curbside Pickup
Saturday 05/09 from 10 am to 2pm. 2181 Blue Heron View Lane, Los Osos

- 3" Phalaenopsis - \$5/each or 5 for \$20
- 4" Phalaenopsis - \$10/each
- 5" Phalaenopsis - \$15/each
- 5" White Phalaenopsis Special - 5 for \$50

Can't Make It? Orchids can be delivered straight to your door! \$20 includes orchid, pot, and delivery!
Contact us on Facebook, Instagram, or (805) 305-1410 to place an order

We have a 6 phase plan to reopen the state. The plan will be a phased plan that we will plan to utilize in phases. The phases will be planned and the planning will be phased. We will move quickly and slowly to open but remain closed. I have created a staff of staffers who will plan the phase and planning while phasing their phases.

And that is our reopening plan.

Thank you

Judy Scheithauer provided this excellent guidance as to when we will be able to resume normal ☐ monthly meetings. For now our May meeting is cancelled. Watch for future newsletters for information about the status of our June silent auction and pot luck meeting.

Orchids are really great and so are the people who grow and share them!

Stay safe and healthy and looking forward to getting back together as a society in the not too distant future.

Five Cities Orchid Society, P.O. Box 1066, Grover Beach, CA 93483-1066, USA

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