



November 2022 Newsletter

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.fcoss.org



From the President's Potting Bench:

Hi Everyone,

It's hard to believe that November is here and 2022 is rapidly coming to an end. I've been busy with my little grow areas. I am enjoying a few new orchid blooms, especially those with fall colors. I have been waiting patiently for a miniature Phragmipedium orchid to open its bud, which is just did today. Look for the picture below of Phrag. Panther Run. Some of my Phalaenopsis bellina hybrids are still in flower, and they are even forming new flower buds. I've

been trying to create a little warmer environment at one end of my greenhouse for them by keeping them on heat mats. Under lights and with a little warmth, Phalaenopsis bellinia can continue to bloom into the winter.

Last weekend, the FCOS participated in the San Luis Botanical Gardens (SLOBG) Annual Plant Sale. The response to our booth was just phenomenal, and we had a lot of fun getting together. We sold about 300 plants overall. Our orchids were donated by Alison Glasco and Bas Van Ejik of CalCoast Orchids, and I'd like to thank them for their continual support of our society. Many of our FCOS members donated their time and talents in providing education and assisting in selling our plants. Without this core group of volunteers FCOS just couldn't function and definitely wouldn't be the same! Thank you to: Ed Lysek, Chris Erhler, Karen Kolba, Denise and Hoss Florez, John and Linda De Souza, Kristie Wells, Phyllis Rosenberg and my wife, Rebecca Parham.

Upcoming Event: We have decided to join the SLOBG again next weekend for their Art in the Garden Sale. <https://www.my805tix.com/e/art-in-the-garden> The Art in the Garden sale will be held at the SLOBG on November 5th and 6th, 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. We are going to need volunteers again for this event. The SLO Botanical Garden is located at [3450 Dairy Creek Road, San Luis Obispo](#). Call, text or email Jeff if you would like to volunteer and join the fun next weekend: Jeff Parham, jsp1440@aol.com, 360-271-3971. We would definitely appreciate your contribution of time and energy.

Upcoming Event: We are currently planning for more festivities at a Holiday Orchid Social and Fun-Raiser. Please join us on December 9, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the Women's Club, [211 Vernon St, Arroyo Grande](#)! We will hold an election for next year's officers, have games, raffles, and an auction. It will be a potluck dinner, so please contact Eric Holenda and let him know what you would like to bring. See you there!

Volunteer Opportunities: FCOS will hold the election of next year's officers at the December meeting noted above. If you are interested in working with others and volunteering to help run FCOS, we would certainly welcome you. Currently the President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Director Member offices are up for election. We are also looking for help with producing our newsletter, and a PR (public relations) person. Please email Karen Kolba or Jeff Parham if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Join and Support FCOS: I encourage your support of the FCOS by paying your annual dues for 2023. We are also grateful for any donation you can contribute. These funds help us grow our programs and bring you engaging and knowledgeable speakers. FCOS is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization, and all donations are tax deductible. <https://fcos.betterworld.org/donate>
Check FCOS's Member Benefits page on our website for information on becoming a member of FCOS: <https://www.fcos.org/memberbenefits>

Happy Blooming!

Jeff



Phalaenopsis Yaphon Green Batman 'FANGtastic Peloric'

WILD & WONDROUS PELORICS ~ CAN COME FROM MANY GENERA & ARE ALWAYS AN ESCAPE FROM THE ORDINARY! They can manifest as wild splash petals, orchids with three lips or those bearing Lycaste-type form and as such, are distinctive and highly collectible, adding a unique addition to any collection. Many can be the happy outcome from a clonal shift in a mericlone population while others have been created from select breeding lines to achieve just these results. No matter what their origin, they add amazing eye-catching pizzazz, creating great conversation pieces.



LC Mini Song LAPrimeramorada 'SMJGP



Phal Yang Yang Black Grape (Haur Jih Fanct 'Red Lantern' x violacea f. Indigo)

Five Cities Orchid Society Presents:

Alex Mintzer - A Springtime Epiphany: Biodiverse Glories of Southwestern Australia

Alex (Prof. Emeritus of Biology, Cypress College) will discuss concepts of evolutionary biology and ecology in his talk about the landscapes, wildlife, wildflowers and orchids of Southwest Australia. Alex is a dynamic speaker and orchid enthusiast and this promises to be an exciting and informative presentation.

Alex completed undergraduate work at U.C. Irvine in 1975, where one of his advisors was Prof. Harold Koopowitz. Alex received his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 1982. His graduate and postgraduate research focused on behavior and ecology of leafcutter and acacia ants. After living and working in four other states (Michigan, Texas, Arizona, and Maryland), Alex returned to California to teach biology full time at Bakersfield College, LA Southwest College, and Cypress College. He has taught lower-division classes in general, environmental, organismal/evolutionary, and human biology. Alex is also a long-term volunteer-activist with

the Sierra Club. He only grows a few easy orchids on his sun porch in Los Osos, but still blooms one of his original plants-- a reed-stem *Epidendrum* acquired in 1970.

Thursday November 10th, 2022 7:00 - 8:30 PM PST

Join [Zoom](#) Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82355435739?pwd=bThHazRPekw5cjhnYmNzMlpkTW96dz09>

Meeting ID: 823 5543 5739

Passcode: 204435

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82355435739?pwd=bThHazRPekw5cjhnYmNzMlpkTW96dz09>



Thelymitra (Sun orchid) from Southwest Australia



FCOS had the privilege of having Ron Kaufmann speak to the group via Zoom about “Life on the Rocks: The World of Rupicolous Orchids” (about orchids that grow lithophytically, focusing on Brazil). Ron is the chair of the San Diego County Orchid Society Conservation Committee and a founding director of the Orchid Conservation Alliance. He stated that rocky terrains host a surprising number of orchid species, and the conditions in those settings are very different from those that we normally consider when deciding how best to grow plants in our own collections. Ron showed photos that he has taken on various growing areas in and around the Rio de Janeiro region of Brazil. The areas where the orchids are growing are generally granite island-type rocks with the orchid roots growing in the cracks. Many of them are growing in direct sun with little to no shade from other plants. Some have V-shaped, upright pointed leaves which helps direct any moisture down to the growths and roots and also limits the amount of sun that strikes the leaves. The older growths on many of these species have died back with only the newer growths having green growths and leaves. Many of these orchids had very short growths and leaves but some, such as *Cattleya elongata*, have tall growths (up to 2 feet) and long inflorescences (2-3 feet). Ron showed photos of species from a wide variety of genera that are able to grow in the various habitats that he was able to visit.

If you missed this presentation the video will be available for viewing for 2 months only.

You can copy the recording information below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/tD0LCpCk6iJeK9rPalLumws_vCHPvk4Wqjrl0MMvuF89CjkeF9pbu5bXtdvXiHG.83EvhQ3tzVrUKcKf

Passcode: #Q.DNe&7

What's Blooming Now - a few photos from our members and friends



Tolunnia Genting Sunray mounted on an oak branch. Watered daily Spring through Autumn and growing in my greenhouse in bright filtered light. This plant was a gift from Rudy Bachmann 10 years ago. Ed Lysek

Miltonia clowesii mounted on an oak branch. This is the first bloom of a plant purchased from Ecuagenera three years ago. Two flower spikes with 4 flowers on each spike. Endemic to Brazil, this intermediate orchid is found in mountain regions at an altitude of 300 to 1,000 meters. Growing in a shady corner of my greenhouse. Ed L.





Cattleya bowringiana var.
coerulea x *C. labiata* var.
'Fowleiana' is one of my older
Cats, having been purchased in
2003 from SBOE. Growing in a
net basket with Hydroton clay
pellets it has 5 bloom spikes
this year. This primary hybrid
has larger flowers than the *C.*
bowringiana species and
blooms a few weeks later. Ed L.

Masdevallia Harlequin
'Ecuagera' has succeeded in
my attempts to find warmth
tolerant *Masdevallia* hybrids.
This plant has survived two
Templeton Summers with
greenhouse temperatures in the
90's. Grown in sphagnum moss
in a net basket, inside a clay pot
and kept in a tray of rainwater
to keep the plant as cool as
possible. Plant from Ecuagera
and grown by Ed L.





Potinaria Hoku Gem 'Freckles' is described as "everblooming" and true to the description this orchid is always in flower. Bright light and growing in a small clay pot with Hydroton clay pellets media. Ed L.

Paphiopedalum Maudiae growing in a shady area of my greenhouse. For an interesting discussion about this primary hybrid click: <https://www.orchidweb.com/blog/the-stunning-flowers-and-foliage-of-paphiopedilum-maudiae-types/> Ed L.





Phragmipedium Panther Run, a miniature bred by Bill Goldner from Woodstream Orchids. <http://www.woodstreamorchids.com>

Obtained as a flaked seedling in 2020. Grown under LED lights and bloomed by Jeff Parham

Closeup of Phrag. Panther Run. RHS registered cross of Phragmipedium Cape May County x Phragmipedium Pink Panther





Pleurothallis (formerly *Acronia*) *adeleae*. Grows in Ecuador and Bolivia as a warm to cool growing terrestrial species at elevations from 1450 to 2250 meters. This orchid is growing a cool greenhouse planted in a clay pot filled with sphagnum moss. Grown by Chris Ehrler.



Side view of *Pleurothallis* (formerly *Acronia*) *adeleae*.





Coelogyne tomentosa flower.
This is a pendulous species and has 16 to 20 flowers per spike.
Grown in a plastic container filled with Hydroton clay pellets media. There is a hole in the pot about 1-inch above the bottom so there is always some water in the bottom of the pot.
Grown by Chris Ehrlar.

Side view of *Coelogyne tomentosa*.





Coelogyne tomentosa spike.

Dendrobium Aussie Parade
'Carrot Splash' x Den Allyn Star
'Crikey' AM-AOS. Acquired a
few years ago from Sunset
Valley Orchids. Grown year
round in a plastic pot filled with
a mixture of bark and lava rock.
Grown by Chris Ehrler.





Dracula cordobae
'Bartholomew' HCC-AOS. Is found in southwestern Ecuador in extremely wet, montane cloud forests at altitudes of 750 to 1000 meters. Is considered a warm growing epiphyte but this orchid is growing in a cool greenhouse in a mesh pot filled with sphagnum moss. Grown by Chris Ehrlar.

Closeup of *Dracula cordobae*
'Bartholomew' HCC-AOS
flower.





Dracula morleyi. A cool growing epiphyte found in northwestern Ecuador at an elevation of about 1900 meters. This orchid is growing in a cool greenhouse in a mesh pot filled with sphagnum moss. Grown by Chris Ehrlar.

Closeup of *Dracula morleyi* flower.





Dracuvallia Blue Boy 'Cow Hollow' AM-AOS. This is a cross of *Masdevallia. uniflora* x *Dracula. chinaera*. This orchid is growing in a clay pot with sphagnum moss that is placed in a cool greenhouse. Grown by Chris Ehrlar.





Dryadella simula. Grows in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru at elevations of 2000 to 3100 meters as a cool growing epiphyte. This orchid is growing mounted on a piece of cork oak bark with some sphagnum moss on the roots in a cool greenhouse. Grown by Chris Ehrlar.

Lepanthes imitator. A cool growing epiphyte found in southeastern Ecuador growing at elevations about 2150 to 2480 meters. This orchid is growing mounted on a small piece of tree fern with some sphagnum moss on the roots. Grown by Chris Ehrler.





Side view of *Lepanthes imitator* flower.



Masdevallia fractiflexa. Grows in Ecuador as a cool to cold growing epiphyte at elevations of 1500 to 2200 meters. This orchid is growing in a clay pot filled with sphagnum moss. This orchid has an odd odor. Plant was a gift from Jeffrey Thompson. Grown by Chris Ehler.

Side view of *Masdevallia fractiflexa* flower.





The tag states this is *Pleurothallis corellii* but it does not look like the photo of this species in www.orchidspecies.com so the tag might be incorrect. This orchid is grown mounted on a piece of wood with some sphagnum moss on the root. Grown by Chris Ehrler.

Pleurothallis lindenii. Grows in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru as an epiphyte or in wet, cold, cloud forests terrestrial at elevations of 2600 to 3350 meters. Growing in a plastic pot filled with a mixture of bark and lava rock. This orchid is grown year round outside. Grown by Chris Ehrler.





Pleurothallis lindenii spike.

Closeup of *Pleurothallis lindenii* flower.





Side view of *Pleurothallis pubescens* flowers. A warm to cool growing species found at elevations from 500 to 1900 meters in the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, French Guiana, Surinam, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina. Growing in a clay pot filled with sphagnum moss which is placed in a cool greenhouse. Grown by Chris Ehler.

Front view of *Pleurothallis pubescens* flowers.





Restrepia species. The tag is missing from the pot, so at some point in time I will figure out the species name and insert a new tag into the pot. Growing in a clay pot filled with sphagnum moss which is placed in a cool greenhouse. Grown by Chris Ehrlert.

Side view of *Restrepia* species
flower.





Restrepia lansbergii. Is not listed in orchidspecies.com. But supposedly is found from northwestern Venezuela to north-central Peru. Growing in a clay pot filled with sphagnum moss which is placed in a cool greenhouse. Grown by Chris Ehrler.

Side view of *Restrepia lansbergii* flower.





Restrepia mendozae. Grows in southeastern Ecuador in the Cordillera del Condor at elevations around 1500 meters as a small sized, warm growing epiphyte. But, this plant is growing well in a cool greenhouse in a clay pot filled with sphagnum moss. Grown by Chris Ehrler.

Side view of *Restrepia mendozae* flower.





Restrepia sanguinea
'Ecuagenera'. A cool to cold
growing epiphyte found in
Antioquia and Cundinamarca
Colombia in cloud forests at
elevations of 1500 to 2800
meters. Growing in a clay pot
filled with sphagnum moss
which is placed in a cool
greenhouse. Grown by Chris
Ehrler.

Side view of *Restrepia sanguinea* 'Ecuagenera' flower.





Running out of space but still want to add more orchids to your collection? Here is an orchid to consider....

With blooms less than 1cm across, orchids growing in cloud forests are as delicate as they are minuscule.

The smallest orchid flower in the world is a hotly contested title. In the cool cloudy rainforests on mountain peaks in Guatemala, the orchid flowers of *Lepanthes oscarrodrigo* are just 0.5mm across. The plant grows on the twigs of bushes and is so minute it is extremely difficult to see, [even when it's flowering](#).

But in 2015, an equally minuscule orchid flower, *Campylocentrum insulare*, was found in Brazil and also measured 0.5mm. This tiny bloom was mistaken for a fungus until it was examined [under a microscope](#).

Before that, the orchid *Platystele jungermannioides* was thought to be the smallest orchid flower, with a bloom 2mm across and so delicate that its petals are just one cell thick and nearly transparent. It was found hidden among the roots of a much larger orchid in a mountainside cloud forest in Ecuador, an area full of tiny orchid species, a sort of botanical Land of Lilliput.

These miniature orchids all need humid cloud forests where they are often shrouded in mist, fog and rain, and where the delicate little orchids have evolved flowers so fragile they would collapse within minutes in a less humid environment.

Paul Simons, Guardian Newspaper

Looking for large sized Perlite?
You can find this product
(Mother
Earth Size 4 extra large and
coarse) as well as a range of
fertilizers, neem oil, net pots
and Hydroton clay pellets at
Sweet Harvest - Hydroponics
and Organics, 1041 E. Grand
Ave. Arroyo Grande. Thanks to
Chris Ehrler for reminding me
about this retail location. -Ed L.



Have a Gardening Question?
Ask **Master Gardener** Peggy Rice who was our booth neighbor at the SLOBG native plant sale. She described her organization and the gardening help they provide to SLO residents.

Contact the UC Master Gardeners with your gardening questions. Call or visit one of the three locations in SLO county - San Luis Obispo, Templeton and Arroyo Grande. More information on their website: www.ucanr.edu/sites/mgslo

Speaking of the Native Plant Sale at SLO Botanical Garden, Eva Vigil, Garden Founder was impressed with the orchids offered for sale by FCOS. Once again, **CalCoast Orchids** donated an amazing 400 Phalaenopsis orchids to make this fund raising program for FCOS and SLOBG a major success.



With the success of the Native Plant Sale at the Botanical Garden this past weekend, FCOS has been invited to sell plants at the [Art in the Garden](#) program at the SLO Botanical Garden Sat. and Sun. Nov. 5-6, 10 AM to 4 PM both days. Volunteers are needed - contact [Jeff Parham](#) if you are able to spend a few hours having fun with your fellow orchid lovers. (Pictured: A very satisfied John & Linda Souza getting some respite after an Orchid selling spree on Saturday.)



Webinars-Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry.

Register now and view on your time schedule.

Greenhouse Chat Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

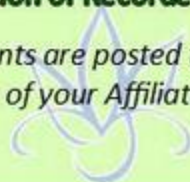
Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

When	Nov. 08, 2022 8:30pm EST Tuesday	Nov. 13, 2022 2:00pm EST Sunday	December Winter Break
Topic	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos & Questions by Nov. 06</i>	Disas Flowers of the Rainbow	Choose Your Topic From RECORDED WEBINARS
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Michael Tibbs International Traveler, Author, Hybridizer, Consultant	Expert Growers, AOS Judges, Hobbyists, Conservationists and more

Check Out the Timeless Collection of Recorded Webinars on the AOS Website



Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.



Use the Webinar Display Filter

Did I pay my FCOA 2022 Membership? Click [HERE](#) to see if your name is on our Paid Members List. Thank you for all who have paid their 2022 Membership dues.

Membership Benefits and How to Join FCOS

- The FCOS Newsletter emailed every month. Keep up to date on FCOS activities, enjoy entertaining and informative articles, and orchid culture tips. [Sign up for FCOS newsletter.](#)
- Monthly Zoom talks from local and worldwide Orchid Experts.
- Opportunities to win beautiful and quality orchids.
- Network with amateur, advanced collectors and commercial growers
- Select invitation to our Holiday Party/Summer Picnic and Auctions.
- Participation in our Annual Central California Coast Orchid Show
- Create orchid displays for The Huntington Botanical Gardens International Orchid Show/The Santa Barbara International Orchid Show.
- Invitation to exclusive FCOS Field-trips to out of town vendors and events.
- **Click to download a copy of the [FCOS Membership Form.](#)**
- Membership dues are \$25 per year for an individual or family. \$15 after June 1 for the balance of the calendar year.
- **Make your check payable to Five Cities Orchid Society, PO Box 1066 Grover Beach, CA 93483.**
- **Please include your completed membership form with your payment.**
- Thank You for becoming a member of the Five Cities Orchid Society.

Payment by Credit Card with an FCOS-BetterWorld Account

If you wish to pay for your membership by **credit card**, you will need to establish an account with the FCOS processing service BetterWorld. Establishing an FCOS-BetterWorld account will also enable you to participate in FCOS on-line orchid auctions as well as paying for your membership dues. [Click here to create an FCOS-BetterWorld account and pay for your membership by credit card.](#)

A Lifetime Individual Membership is available for a one-time donation of \$500. Your generous donation enables FCOS to attract quality speakers, create content rich newsletters and most importantly helps finance one of the largest regional orchid shows in the western U.S. You can submit your lifetime membership payment by check using the [FCOS Membership Form](#) or by credit card by clicking this link: [FCOS-BetterWorld Lifetime Membership Donation of \\$500.](#)



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Photos by Lisa Roeder, Eve Vigil & Erick Wand

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FCOS Garage Sale

Send an email to [Jeff Parham](#), [Chris Ehrler](#) or [Ed Lysek](#) and include an image of your item, a description, price, and your contact info. We'll include your info in our next monthly newsletter if there is space. FCOS assumes no responsibility for payment, taxes, etc. We ask the items be orchid or plant related. FCOS is not taking a commission or participating in any other way.

Orchid Virus tests from Agi labs. \$8 each, contact Jeff at jsp1440@aol.com

Cymbidiums for sale in San Luis Obispo. 5 gallon pots of cymbidiums, many in spike or flower, assorted colors. \$20 to \$30 each. Contact Jerry Camel at 805-543-933

Five Cities Orchid Society 2022 Board of Directors

[Jeff Parham](#), *President*

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[Denise Florez](#), *Treasurer & Secretary*

[Kristie Wells](#), *Asst. Secretary*

[Karen Kolba](#), [Anne Bachmann](#), and [Ed Lysek](#), *Directors at Large*

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Orchids are really great!

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

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