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San Francisco Orchid Society Newsletter

In This Issue

[James Rose - August Speaker](#)

[Laelias of Mexico](#)

[New Membership Directory](#)

[SFOS Board Minutes](#)

[AOS Awards](#)

[SFOS Bulletin Board](#)

Quick Links

[San Francisco Orchid Society
Web Site](#)

[Membership/Change of Address](#)

[Newsletter Submissions](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Notices](#)

[Member's Corner](#)

[Past Newsletters](#)

Membership

[Join the SF Orchid Society](#)
[Contact the Membership Chairman](#)
[Welcome New Members](#)

August 2012 Volume 61 Number 8

The mission of the SFOS is to foster the culture and cultivation of orchids and to promote education of its members and the public about orchids. Our goals include: an exchange of information from exhibitions, publications, and the Internet, maintenance of a reference library, and participation in worldwide activities.

August Speaker - James Rose
Cal-Orchid, Inc.

James Rose

SFOS Meeting

Tues. August 7, 2012



SF Orchid Society

Tues. August 7, 2012
AOS Judging: 7:00 PM
Skills Session: 7:05 PM
Meeting: 7:30 PM

San Francisco County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way, San Francisco. Plants submitted for American Orchid Society Judging must be entered between 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

Speaker

James Rose
Cal-Orchid, Inc.

Laelias of Mexico

Skill Session

Chris Mende
Thinking About Light

Plant



Cal-Orchid, Inc. is owned and operated by **James and Lauris Rose**. In the early 1970's the Roses began their orchid careers in the commercial realm, and eventually purchased their own nursery in 1987. When you call or visit you will be assisted by James and Lauris, not sales clerks. That is a combined experience of 60+ years. The Roses have always been active in the orchid world, travelling for shows, sales, or lecturing. Whenever possible, they are generous with their time, personally visiting with customers about orchid culture. A good time is had by all!

The inventory at Cal-Orchid is very diverse and reflects the interests of not only the current marketplace, but the many trips made by the Roses to foreign locales.

James has long been known to have a sharp eye for the unusual and these are featured in their website www.calorchid.com.

Laelias of Mexico

Opportunity Table

Asuka Orchids

2011-2012 SFOS

Officers/Contacts

President

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meg570@comcast.net

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Jean Lee

Past President

Dennis Westler

Show Chair

Membership

Open

Newsletter Editor

Stanford Stapleton

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stanford@rkmediasolutions.com

[m](#)

AOS Representative

Carol Zoltowski

415-657-3222



"The Laelias are undoubtedly the most outstanding and loved orchids of Mexico. They have delighted Mexican natives and foreigners for centuries... and are some of the most beautiful and familiar orchids in cultivation."

Federico Halbinger and **Miguel Soto** from their book **"Laelias of Mexico"**

Traditionally, Laelias have been cultivated and collected by native tribes from Chihuahua in the north to Chiapas in the far south and have been offered during religious celebrations and other festivities dating back to pre-Colombian times. Thus they have gotten common names like Flor de Mayo (flower of May - Mother's Day), Flor de Muerto (Day of the Dead), Flor de Todos Santos (All Saints Day).

Many of the Laelias come from cool mountain habitats and thus can be easily cultivated in the Bay Area if protected from winter rains. Please come and learn more about these wonderful plants from and expert in their cultivation, **James Rose** of Cal-Orchid in Santa Barbara.

Dinner with the Speaker

czoltowski@sbcglobal.net

**Orchid Digest
Representative**

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flarose@prmagic.com

Webmaster

Contact: Dennis Westler
DennisWestler@aol.com

Web Site

www.orchidsanfrancisco.org

g

info@orchidsanfrancisco.org

A California Non Profit 501(c)3
Corporation
SFOS NEWSLETTER August
2012

[back to top](#)

Please join us in the parking lot in back of the SF County Fair Building at 5:30 PM sharp.

2012 Membership Directory

The new membership directory is now online on the SFOS website. All members with an email address in our records should have received instructions for login and password.

If there are errors,
please contact Chris Mende at
chrismendefoto@aim.com.

2012 Dues

(\$25 per year)

Dues may be payable at any SFOS meeting,
or go the Web site www.orchidsanfrancisco.org
and use *Pay Pal* or mail to

SFOS- Membership

PO Box 27145

SF, CA 94127-0145

- \$25/year (with Email Newsletter Option)
- \$45/year (with USPS Mail Newsletter Option)

Thank you!

Welcome New Members

**Amy Roth
John Bishop
Jung Hee Ra
Susan Anderson
Jon Breitenbach-Patch
Scott Simono
Alex Wilson
Rachel Freeman
Bernadette Bigley**

Please welcome our new members whenever you meet them and especially at the San Francisco Orchid Society meetings.

Refreshments

K - O

SFOS members are encouraged to help out with refreshments, setup and cleanup at Monthly Meetings. If your last name falls within the letter range **K-O** please bring snacks such as fresh fruit, ice cream, crackers & cheese for the next meeting. About three dozen cookies, one cake, one to two pounds of fruit or cheeses, or one box of crackers is an appropriate amount. Remember to pick up your raffle ticket as one of the rewards of



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Minutes of SFOS Board Meeting

Minutes of SFOS Board Meeting, July 9, 2012

Virtually Present: Mary Gerritsen, Steve Beckendorf, Jeff Harris, Chris Mende, Ricki Kohn, Allison Lehman, Eric Wells, Dennis Westler, Jean Lee

Absent: Valerie Mountain

Vice President's Report: Speaker at August meeting will be Jim Rose. Topic will be Laelias of Mexico. Plant table provided by Asuka. Skill session TBD.

Membership Report: Chris reemphasized the need to find a permanent membership chair, she does not have time to keep up with the duties she only agreed to for a short term. The board discussed updating of the on line roster. We have several new members through Paypal in June and July. Dennis will check with Kathy to make sure member information that comes with Paypal payment is being properly dealt with.

Treasurer's report: Jeff Harris reports that as of today the society has \$156,741 in our accounts (savings, checking and endowment). Jeff has purchased a new laptop with MS Office and Quickbooks, and transferred all files to the new laptop. Jeff will keep the ledger of the accounts. Dan Peter will continue taking care of the POE expenses but will copy Jeff on all expenses and deposits. Dan has the old laptop and software. Jeff renewed the memberships in AOS and Pleurothallid Alliance (for 2 years), paid the BAY OCEAN California Garden Club dues, and paid the deposit for Orchids in the Park and for the certificate of insurance. The board all expressed their gratitude to Jeff for taking on this job and getting up to speed so quickly.

POE Report (Dennis): Our net profit from the POE 2012 is ~\$83,000. The POE show

committee met on June 16 and discussed possible sponsorship, new banners, changes in ticketing to an all electronic method (extreme tix). The show needs much better demographics on attendees for our sponsor than we were able to provide last year. Final decisions have not been made on how ticketing will be done. The committee is also discussing improvements to the shuttle bus service so that we do not have bottlenecks as happened this year.

Orchids in the Park: Allison Lehman volunteered to take on the coordination of the Razzle Dazzle Raffle. She will come up with more concrete plans before the next SFOS meeting. Food for the show this year was discussed; Mary was to get estimates on amount of food from last year and Allison was going to get costs for food from Costco. Steve and Eric volunteered to pick up the food for the show, although volunteers are still needed to put out the food and check on the lunch room during the show. Another unaddressed issue for the show is the coffee and snacks that are provided in the morning. Bob Christenson has put together a request for volunteers and it will appear in the next newsletter.

Length of meetings: A few of the SFOS meetings went on too long, a combination of one or more of long period of announcements, long show and tell table, speakers speaking longer than their time slot, and the raffle also taking too long. The board discussed various ways to address this to try to keep the meetings on schedule. Input from the membership is welcome. The proposals made by the board were: (1) Keep announcements short and succinct (2) ask the presenters of the show and tell table to be succinct. Since the Vice-president conducts the meetings, he will remind presenters if they are taking too long (3) the vice-president to clearly inform the speaker that talks are to be 45 min in length, and for the vice president to inform the speaker if they are taking too long. (4) ask the people doing the raffle to come up with some ways to make that part of the meeting more efficient. Suggestions included drawing 5 tickets out at a time instead of one, similar to what other societies do.

Upcoming survey of membership. The SFOS SPC committee is working on a membership survey to get feedback from the membership. To encourage members to participate, it was moved and seconded and passed that every member who fills out the survey will get a strip of raffle tickets (to be picked up at the membership table after the survey has been completed).

Sound system. The new sound system is being sent back for repairs (under warranty). Hopefully it will be back in time for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Gerritsen (standing in for Valerie Mountain, Secretary who could not make the meeting)

[back to top](#)

AOS Awards

AOS Awards

American Orchid Society Pacific Judging Center Web site: www.aospacificcentral.org/
Please check the Web site for the most recent awards.

[back to top](#)

SFOS Bulletin Board

The Bulletin Board is a free service for SFOS members' orchid related items. Send items by the 15th of the month by email to: stanford@rkmediasolutions.com Include your name, phone number, and how long you want the item to run. We will also run items of interest from other orchid societies. All submissions will be reviewed and may be edited.

Upcoming Events

August 7, 2012, 7:30pm - SFOS General Meeting

James Rose - Cal-Orchid, Inc.- [Main Speaker](#)

Subject: **Laelias of Mexico**

Skill Session - "**Thinking About Light**" **Chris Mende**

September 5, 2012 Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society Fall Auction Wednesday 7

PM. 11540 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose. Lots of good deals and the excitement of an auction. Brings lots of bags and boxes. See their website at

www.santaclaravalleyorchidsociety.org.

September 15 - 16, 2012 Orchids in the Park Sale Sat - Sun 10 AM- 5 PM. San Francisco County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers) 9th Avenue & Lincoln Way, San Francisco, CA. Admission \$ 4.00. Call 415-665-6079 or visit the website at www.orchidsanfrancisco.org for information and directions.

Upcoming Speakers

TBD

Notices

Wear Your Name Badge

The board voted to provide a special raffle ticket to members when they pick up and wear their name tags at our meetings. A drawing for a plant from the opportunity table will be limited to this and will immediately follow the choice by the person who did the Skill Session and the winner from the Show and Tell table. So, wearing your name tag will get you an early selection from the opportunity table.

Your name tag will be available at the membership table.

Member's Corner

San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee

As many of you are aware, the natural world is in crisis mode. Every day forests are being destroyed to make way for more farms, cow pastures, industry, timber plantations, oil plantations, and more cities. This 'progress' is destroying species and their habitats at a frightening rate. There is no more devastating sight than to see magnificent trees lying stacked one on top of each other beside the road, and piles of "brush" containing orchids, bromeliads, ferns and countless other species being burned to make way for a new pasture, road or subdivision. Moreover, it can take centuries to restore what man destroyed in just a day or two. At this rate, there will be only tiny pockets of preserved habitat left, and even these are threatened by poaching, government instability, and an ever growing human population. A large orchid society, such as the San Francisco Orchid Society, has the opportunity to "make a difference", i.e. to try to help preserve at least some of the orchids, coexisting species of plants and animals, and their habitats before it is too late.

This year the San Francisco Orchid Society donated \$3000 to the Orchid Conservation Alliance, an organization founded to preserve orchid habitat. The board also approved the motion that the proceeds from the Razzle Dazzle Raffle be earmarked for orchid conservation, although the specific recipient(s) of the funds raised has yet to be determined. However, I think we as a society can do more, particularly if there is an interested and motivated group of people who are interested in this objective. Therefore, I announced at the June SFOS meeting that we would start the "**San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee**"; this committee would then create a set of goals and guidelines, as well as brainstorm ideas for fund raising and evaluate worthy projects to support. Participation on this committee is open to all members of the SFOS, and I would welcome any of you who are interested in participating in this worthy project.

If you are interested in joining the **San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee**, please let me know. I would like to plan a kick off meeting in August, but if you can't make that meeting, I would still welcome your support and participation. Please help make a difference. Please email me at meg570@comcast.net if you are interested in joining this worthwhile undertaking.

Mary E. Gerritsen, President
San Francisco Orchid Society

SFOS Monthly Show and Tell Table

We want to thank our members who bring in their plants for display at the monthly meetings. This is a great viewing experience for all and a great way to learn about new plants we might want to try to grow in the future for ourselves.

But did you know that you can bring in a blooming plant that you might not be certain about the name or type and have our group of experts help identify your plant? The more you know, the better your chance of success. Thank you for participating and we'll see you and your plants at the next monthly meeting.

The Board

Featured Orchids from the July 2012 Show & Tell Table



Dimorphorchis rossii

Grown and photographed by Jacob U. Knecht.

This fascinating and rare epiphytic orchid species is endemic to riverine and lower mountain forests atop ultramafic soils between 300-1200 metres on eastern slopes of Mount Kinabalu, Sabah Province on the Indonesian island of Borneo. This species and the few others in its genus are remarkable for their long-lasting dimorphic flowers; the upper flowers of the inflorescence are pure yellow and emit an intoxicatingly rich and pleasant scent primarily in the daytime while the lower flowers are white with spots and frilly margins that have no detectable fragrance. Both flowers have male and female parts and it remains unknown what its natural pollinator is and what role these dimorphic flowers play in its pollination biology.

Jacob grew this species under artificial light for two years (400w HPS and MH bulbs) in warm conditions (min 65E/18C) but blooming was only initiated 4 months after moving it to an intermediate greenhouse (min 58E/14C). Both under lights and in the greenhouse it was exposed to light levels between 1500-2000 foot candles, growing in hardwood open-slat basket with daily water year-round. It is fertilised with every watering at 1/7 strength MSU well water formula. Humidity is maintained between 70-85% r/h.



Cattleya briergeri

Jacob grows this Brazilian native lithophytic orchid species near the roof at the apex of his cool-climate greenhouse where temperatures rise to 84°F/29°C in the day and dip to 50°F/10°C at night year-round. It receives bright light (4000-4500 foot candles) and is potted in a mixture of granite and coarse horticultural grade pumice. It receives daily watering year-round and is fertilised with every watering at 1/7 strength MSU well water formula. Humidity is maintained between 70-85% r/h and this plant receives good air movement. The long-lasting flowers reflect a great deal of light with their delightful crystalline texture and are heliotropic, following the path of the sun throughout the day in the manner of a sunflower.

Submitted by Jacob U. Knecht

[back to top](#)

Announcements

ORCHIDS IN THE PARK

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The San Francisco Orchid Society has two main fund raising activities each year: **Orchids in the Park** and the **Pacific Orchid Exposition**. The 2012 POE was a great success. We need the support of our membership to put on an equally great "**Orchids in the Park**" that will help support the activities of our society. Please support the SFOS by

volunteering, attending, and spreading the word to your friends and family.

Before the show: Help us promote our show by passing out copies of the show postcard. Leave some at work. Pass them out at the grocery store or the nursery you frequent. Talk to your friends and co-workers about the show. Word of mouth is one of the best ways to let others know about the show. Please take a stack of postcards (available at the August and September SFOS meetings) to other orchid society meetings. Also take cards to other plant society meetings e.g. Native Plant, Succulent, Gesneriad, Bromeliad, Garden Club.

At the show: Help us put on our show and make it a success. This is a great way to get to know other members and become involved with the SFOS. Volunteer shifts are Friday 9-12, 11-2, 6-8, Saturday 9:30-1:30, 1-5. Sunday 9:30-1:30, 1-5, 5-7. Please, feel free to volunteer for more than one shift. Lunch will be provided on Saturday and Sunday for those volunteers staffing at least one shift that day, and light snacks and beverages will also be available. If you would like to bring a friend(s) or a significant other to help out, that would be great. Volunteers do not have to be SFOS members.

If you would like to volunteer for any of the following positions, please sign up at the Aug. or Sept. meetings or contact Bob Christensen - telephone: 415-337-6571; email: rcc572@aol.com .

Friday jobs:

Set up the show: Put up the tables for the exhibits and vendors, cover them with the black plastic table covering. This is a physical job and requires some lifting, moving, standing and walking. (Friday 9-12).

Set up the exhibit: Set up the central display of flowering plants for the show. This job requires some lifting, standing and walking. (Friday 11-2).

Friday night closing: Watch over the premises while vendors complete their setups and until the Park Patrol arrives and secures the building. (Friday 6-8 pm)

Saturday and Sunday Jobs

Set up the exhibit: One person will be needed Saturday morning (9-10 am) to finalize the member plant display.

Cashiers: Greet people as they come in the door to the show, collect admissions and ask them to fill out an attendee registration page for future contacts from the SFOS. This is a sit down job. (Saturday and Sunday; 9:30-1:30, 1-5)

SFOS Table: Answer questions about SFOS membership, hand out cards to encourage people to come to POE, sell books, T-shirts and other materials the society will have available for the show. Much of this job can be done sitting down.

Lunch Room: Help lay out the food, make sure the coffee pot is on, keep the room straight, and make sure only volunteers are eating the food. This job will require some walking and light lifting.

Raffle Table: Collect and set up the prize plants, sell tickets and conduct the drawings. This raffle is the "door raffle" and is distinct from the RAZZLE DAZZLE RAFFLE. Much of this job can be done sitting down. (Saturday and Sunday: 9:30-1:30, 1-5).

Razzle Dazzle Raffle Table: This year we will have some extraordinary plants at the Razzle Dazzle Table. Tickets will be sold separately, but the drawing will be at the show. This is mostly a sit down job. (Saturday and Sunday; 9:30-1:30, 1-5).

Plant Hotel: Temporarily store plants from people who have purchased plants at the show so they can continue shopping. This is an up and down job, some light lifting required. (Saturday and Sunday; 9:30-1:30, 1-5)

Security: Stand at the exits and check that people have paid for their plants and to ensure that patrons pass through the entry door. This job requires some standing, although you can sit down if it is not busy. (Saturday and Sunday; 9:30-1:30, 1-5)
Floater: This job has no real definition...basically you will just help out wherever needed. (Saturday and Sunday; 9:30-1:30, 1-5)

After show is over:

Take Down: Remove the table coverings, take down the tables, load tables on the dollies, load the SFOS property truck, and clean up. This is a physical job, requiring some lifting, standing, and walking around. Sunday after the show (5-7). We need plenty of volunteers so we finish before 7 to avoid extra charges!

Member Plant Sales

Help your Society and yourself by selling your excess plants at the Member Plant Sales table. Make space for your new orchids. Just inform Kay Klumb of your intent to bring plants and mark each sale plant with its name, your code and price, i.e., *Maxillaria marginata* KK-1 \$10.00, and provide Kay with a master list. Sellers get 75% of the sales price; SFOS gets 25% and pays the sales tax. Sellers should plan to help at the member sales table for at least 3 hours. You may bring plants anytime during the event, but Friday or early Saturday are best. If you have questions, ask Kay at a meeting or contact her at kayklumb@gmail.com or 415 648-8271.

Member Plant Display

Are you planning on volunteering or coming to the show? If you have something wonderful in bloom at that time, please bring it along for display. This is a great opportunity for members to show off their plants to the public, and to encourage new people to think about growing orchids! Bring display plants on Friday or early on Saturday morning (before the show opens at 10), and pick them up at the end of the show on Sunday. Bring props needed to display your plant (e.g. pots, some type of device to hang a plant) with you when you come. Display plants will not be judged, but members bringing plants for display will get 3 free tickets for the RAZZLE DAZZLE RAFFLE. Please make an easy to read label for your plants so that attendees will know its name and who grew it (if you like).

Mary Gerritsen
President, SFOS

Procedure For A Guest to Attend the SFOS Board Meeting

All SFOS board meetings are open to all members. The board meets on the Monday following the general meeting of each month-- either in person --at the SF County Fair Building (at 7pm) or via Skype (at 7:30 pm). To participate in a virtual meeting, the member must either have a Skype account or a telephone number, which the moderator will add to the call list. Guests will then be added to the conference call at the time the board meeting commences. Board meetings typically end about 9pm.

To attend one of the virtual board meetings, members should contact the virtual board meeting moderator (usually the President, currently Mary Gerritsen) by email or telephone preferably one week before the board meeting. Currently all board meetings

are virtual unless announced by email or in the newsletter. To attend an in-person meeting, advance notice is not required.

HELP WANTED: San Francisco Orchid Society Membership Chair

Do you like to talk to people about orchids? Encourage others to enjoy your hobby? The San Francisco Orchid Society really needs your help! We do not have a membership chair, and this is an important position. What does the job entail? Here are the major responsibilities:

- Attending the SFOS monthly meetings, maintain and update the membership records, and collect dues. Note that membership dues can now be paid on line through the website, and we hope that more of the membership will use this time saving method to renew their membership.
- The membership chair works with the newsletter editor and the website manager to make sure the distribution list for the newsletter and on-line roster is up to date.
- Once a month (the first Monday following the general meeting) the board of directors meets-a virtual meeting via a conference call. The membership chair gives an update on new members that have joined the society at the board meeting. If you can't make a meeting, we understand and can make adjustments.
- At the two shows put on by the SFOS the membership chair organizes volunteers to man the membership tables at those events to recruit new members and tell others about the SFOS.
- At the membership chairs discretion, he/she may prepare brochures, postcards or initiate other events to encourage new people to join the SFOS.

This post has been vacant for several months, and we really need someone to step in and help. Please, support your society, and get involved! Please contact Mary Gerritsen at meg570@comcast.net Thank you!

MORE HELP WANTED

YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR NAMING THE POE 2013 SHOW WITH AN ASIAN THEME.

Respond now to: Dennis Westler email at: denniswestler@aol.com.

Announcements

CALIFORNIA
SIERRA
NEVADA
JUDGING
CENTER



Presents
California Sierra Nevada
Speaker's Day

Saturday, August 4, 2012
9AM to 5PM
Odd Fellows Building
1831 Howe Ave. at Alta Arden
Sacramento, CA 95838

Featuring

Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nursery
Simplified Orchid Genetics and Breeding
(How to improve your collection)

Ron McHatton

Operating Officer, Director of Education for AOS
Growing Miniature Orchids in Your Home

Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nursery

Dennis Olivas, D & D Flowers

Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids

All You Wanted to Know About Cattleyas (panel discussion)

Vendors

Golden Gate Orchids

Odontoglossums and their intergenerics, plus other fantastic plants.

H & R Nursery

A great selections of various type of orchids.

Gold Country Orchids

Mini-cattleyas that bloom 2-3 times a year.

D & D Flowers

Dennis will have whatever the others don't.

\$10 advance
\$20 at the door for Sponsoring Societies & AOS members
\$25 general admission

CSNJJC is a 501 c3 organization. Visit our website at: csnjc.org

*The San Francisco Orchid Society
invites you to.....*

**Orchids in the Park
Orchid Sale and Exhibition
September 15-16, 2012**



**10 am-5pm
County Fair Building
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way
San Francisco**

**Admission \$4, Seniors \$3
Children under 16 free**

**Demonstrations, Lectures, Raffles
email: info@orchidsanfrancisco.org
a California Non-Profit 501(c) Corporation**

[back to top](#)

Change of address?

Send all address and e-mail changes to:

Chris Mende

Email: chrismendefoto@aim.com

SFOS Membership

P.O. Box 27145,

San Francisco, CA 94127

Newsletter Submissions

The SFOS Newsletter welcomes news, articles,

events, and any other items of interest to members. Send items by the 15th of the month in an email to **Stanford Stapleton** at: stanford@rkmediasolutions.com

Please include your name at the beginning or end of your text. All submissions will be reviewed and may be edited due to space limitations. Thank you!

Sincerely,

San Francisco Orchid Society



[back to top](#)

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