

# The BackBulb

C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y

January 2014



## January Speaker: Mary Gerritsen

### Trekking to the Lost World: Mt. Roraima

Mt. Roraima is the tallest of the tepuis, table top shaped mountains found in the Guiana Highlands of South America. Located at the corner of Venezuela, Brazil, and Guyana, Mt. Roraima is one of the few tepuis that can be climbed without climbing gear or a helicopter. The tops of the tepuis are geographically isolated from one another, and from the rainforest below, and as a result, harbor endemic flora and fauna found nowhere else in the world. These mesas are poor in nutrients, but incredibly rich in carnivorous plants, orchids, bromeliads and other often primitive species, and are a fascinating place to explore botanically. Mary joined a small group led by Stewart McPherson (author of numerous books on carnivorous plants) to go on an adventure of a lifetime. Join Mary for a virtual trip to the Lost World..a true floristic adventure.

Mary has been growing orchids on and off for the last 35 years, and since moving to the San Francisco area in 1997, she has become a passionate orchid hobbyist. She loves miniature orchid species, and has a large collection, mostly pleurothallids, in her cool-intermediate greenhouse in San Mateo. She also grows a large

This months meeting is on **Monday January 6th, 7PM** at the Community Church of Monterey Peninsula. 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.



Restrepia sp.

**1**  
January Meeting

**2**  
Upcoming Events

**3**  
President's Corner

In order to provide a selection of treats at our meetings, we are asking members with last names that start with the letter **S thru Z** to **bring refreshments** to the next meeting.

## COS Officers

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P.O. Box 223462  
Carmel  
CA 93922-3462

number of monopodials, bulbophyllum, and laelinae in a second larger intermediate-warm greenhouse. She has co-authored, with friend and photographer Ron Parsons, several botanical books including "Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World", "Calochortus. Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives" and most recently, the two volume series "A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species". Mary also occasionally writes articles for Orchids (AOS magazine). She is currently the president of the

San Francisco Orchid Society.



Only Carol seems to be able to bloom Cattleas as large as this one. This is the "Big" Porcia, 8 spikes.

## Upcoming Events

### January

**1/6 Monday 7PM COS January Meeting:** Mary Gerritsen

1/13 COS board meeting.

1/17 Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Annual Collectors Auction.

1/25-26 Peninsula Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale.  
Redwood City.

### February

2/1-2 Sonoma Co. orchid Society Annual Show and Sale. Santa Rosa.

**2/3 Monday COS February Meeting: Samanth Kha**

2/20-23 Pacific Orchid Exposition, Orchids And All That Jazz, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco

## **President's Corner**

The luster of the holidays has faded. The hard frost of December is a memory, I hope a good one, for your outdoor plants. Lit up nightly by a 40 watt bulb, my cymbidiums stayed warm under a plastic blanket. The remainder of the outdoor orchid collection vacationed in the garage. Only one minor mishap, a "varmit" lunched on a stanhopea bulb. With the shift to 60 and 70 degree days, the orchids appear to be refreshed from a short "winter's rest". The cold snap may have juiced their flowering instincts. Hope so! In the meantime indoor cat's and paph's are busting out of their sheaths. Love it.

2014 is starting out with a bang. Mary Gerritsen is our January scheduled speaker. She'll bring a great opportunity plant table as well as additional plants for sale. Now is the time to start thinking about how you want your collection to grow - where are the holes, what do you covet and how can you adjust venue conditions to accommodate your wishes - 'cause, POE is coming!

Make a list, check it twice and be prepared to throw it out when you see the displays at the Pacific Orchid Exposition (POE) in San Francisco. Dates are Friday February 21st through Sunday the 23rd, plus an evening Gala Thursday the 20th (6:30 - 10:00 p.m.) Times are 10:00 - 6:00 Friday, 9:00 - 6:00 Saturday and 10:00 5:00 on Sunday - all at the Fort Mason Festival Pavilion in San Francisco.

General Admission is \$14.71, seniors (65 +) is \$11.54 and the Gala is \$43.19. A weekend pass is \$59.02. A 3 day pass is \$27.37.

Group discounts are offered. The purchase of 5 tickets will get you one ticket free for General Admission (\$12.25), Senior Admission (\$9.61) and Gala (\$36.15).

If you are interested in car pooling and/or working in groups of six to get a group discount, let us know at the January or February meeting and we will try to facilitate bringing people together so that they can work out arrangements.

Hope to see you at the January Meeting!

**Kathie**



An unidentified Cattleya in Carol's collection. Any Ideas on a name?

## Membership Time!

It's that time again, time for your otherwise nice, friendly society board members to nag you about paying your membership dues. As much as we would like to have your money to pay for our fabulous monthly speakers, what we really want is for you to come hear the speakers, buy the raffle tickets and take home all the interesting plants on our monthly raffle tables. None of that will happen if you are not interested enough to pay the pittance we ask for or yearly dues. Most orchids that we will kill in less than a year cost more than a years membership! So all we ask is that you pay your dues, come to the meetings and have a wonderful time!

### C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y 2014 Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the **Carmel Orchid Society** and mail to: Carmel Orchid Society - Membership c/o Carol Easton, P.O. Box 223462 Carmel CA 93922-3462

Please print

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

If you were referred by a current member, please provide

his/her name \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal  New Member

Member of the American Orchid Society

Membership Type	Receive Newsletter	
	Via E-Mail	Via US Mail
Single	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>

**Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers**

***Cymbidium Orchid Auction***



**Friday, January 17, 2014**

**Auction 7:00 PM**

**Registration & Preview 6:30 - 7:00 PM**

**Beautiful Cymbidiums and their Companions, Including In Spike, Rarely Available, and Show & Award Winners!**

- 200 Plant Entries
- No Buyers Premium
- Absentee Bids Accepted



Cym. Pepper's Fire 'Carnival'  
Photo by Darrel Wong

**San Mateo Garden Center  
605 Parkside Way  
San Mateo, CA 94403**

**Catalog & Photos will be Available after January 6, 2014 at:**

**[www.GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers.com](http://www.GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers.com)**

**Email Questions or Inquiries to [bacyms@yahoo.com](mailto:bacyms@yahoo.com) or call (510) 582-5896**



Cymbidium Erythrostylum by Sally Robertson

## **ORCHIDS** and all that **JAZZ**

SAN FRANCISCO ORCHID SOCIETY'S 62ND ANNUAL  
**PACIFIC ORCHID EXPOSITION**

**GALA BENEFIT PREVIEW THURS. FEBRUARY 20, 6:30- 10:00 PM**  
**SHOW & PLANT SALE • FEBRUARY 21 - 23, 2014**  
**FRIDAY 10AM-6PM • SATURDAY 9AM-6PM • SUNDAY 10AM-5PM**  
**FESTIVAL PAVILION • FORT MASON CENTER • SAN FRANCISCO**

Admission \$13 online/\$15 at door, Seniors \$10 online/\$12 at door, Gala \$40 online/\$45 at door. 16 years & under Free accompanied w/adult (except Gala)  
Special discounts on the website. Parking available at Marina Middle School, Sat & Sun, entrance on Bay between Moscone Park & the school. Complimentary shuttle.

For Tickets & Information please visit  
[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

Additional Information: The Larose Group 650-548-6700

A California Non-Profit Tax Exempt 501(c)3 Corporation



# Sonoma County Orchid Society

PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE

## "ORCHIDS IN THE REDWOODS"



**February 1 - 2, 2014**

Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday 10 am - 3 pm

Admission \$8.00



Santa Rosa Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA  
(Across from the Fairgrounds)  
[www.sonomaorchids.com](http://www.sonomaorchids.com)