

# The Sheath

## NO April General Meeting

*Instead, you are invited to attend the annual potting clinic*

Date: **Saturday**, April 25, 2009

Time: Noon to 3:00 PM

Place: Sue's Home

There will be member plants for sale at the potting clinic.

### **POS Plant Sale and Expert Potting Clinic** written by Sue

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the Peninsula Orchid Society will have a Plant Sale and Potting Clinic. This will be a different Potting Clinic than we have done before. We will have **EXPERTS** on site to actually show you how to repot your plants.

The experts will be Anna Chai, Gerardus Staal, Tom Mudge, Ken Jacobsen, Dan Newman and Amy Jacobsen. They will also be selling their plants at this clinic.

The first repotting is free, after that it is \$5.00 per plant. Of course this is based on no more than a 6" pot. For larger pots, it will take more time and cost a little more.

Free lunch will be provided between 12:00 and 1:30. Court, Palo Alto, CA 94301. Please park on

For drop off and pick ups you will be able to drive into the court yard.

The POS will provide all the repotting mixes you will need. We also have a few pots, but if you have specific pots you would like to use, please bring them.

We hope to see all of you there at this event.

### **Virtual Show and Tell Table**

Since we are not having our regular April meeting, but we have many wonderful plants in bloom that we would have brought to the meeting, I would appreciate it very much if you would send me some photos of plants you would have brought in to the meeting, if only we were having it! Please e-mail your photos to [the\\_sheath\\_editor@earthlink.net](mailto:the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net) by May 4th.

**President's Corner**

Over the past few months we've seen our spring blooming orchids at their best, and we've had a chance to enjoy their flowers to the fullest. We also were given a special chance at our last meeting to learn more about how the AOS judges flowers, and hopefully we all learned more about what makes some plants a little more special than others.

Now that the spring bloomers are finishing their display, it's the perfect time to start thinking about next year, and how to get the most from each plant the next time it blooms. For those plants you noted this year as being especially nice, it isn't too early to think about giving them special care, so perhaps they'll find their way into our society show in January or into shows for other societies, depending on the time of bloom.

One way to ensure your special plants are in top condition for next year is to take care of any repotting needs as early this year as possible. Each plant should be examined to see if the media is degraded, or if the plant is too large for its current container. If either is true, repotting is needed. If the roots of the plant are in active growth and the new roots aren't in danger of serious damage during repotting, now is the best time to do this chore.

Of course, repotting of each genus is somewhat different. Some genera are very forgiving while other genera can be very particular. The trick is knowing which genera are forgiving, and which are not. The good news is that this month the POS is having a repotting clinic for our monthly meeting, and experts in different genera will be at the clinic to assist in repotting member plants, and to provide advice. It isn't often one has the chance to have help from the likes of Anna Chai, Dan Newman, Amy Chung, Gerardus Staal and Tom Mudge for repotting plants, so everyone should take advantage of this opportunity. While working on the repotting, you can probably also ask in a one-on-one to few-on-one environment about some of the experts growing techniques.

Cheers,  
Ken

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**THANK YOU!**

Our sincere thanks to our intrepid AOS judges, probationary judges, student judges, and of course their enthusiastic leader Maynard Michel! It can not have been easy to do your jobs with all of us breathing down your necks, weighing all of your judgements, and having to see us later, knowing that we had memorized your judgements of our beloved plants. It was a wonderful learning experience.

**Accredited Judges:** Francisco M. Baptista, Ms. E. W. Caughlan, Ms. Trudy Hadler, C. Todd Kennedy, Terry Boomer, Mrs. Anna Chai, Maynard C. Michel, Helen V. Michel, Fred A. Shull, and Dennis Olivas.

**Probationary Judges:** Tim Culbertson, Amy Chung, and Ken Jacobsen.

**Student Judges:** Steven Beckendorf and Carol Zoltowski.

Thank you all for spending your Friday evening sharing your knowledge with us at our March meeting.

## Editor's corner

After I decided not to buy a greenhouse, I ordered a Wardian case. Of course, before it even arrived a friend found a greenhouse kit for me on Craig's list and I had the greenhouse before the Wardian case arrived. Well, the Wardian case was certainly easier to bring from box to housing orchids!



However, not everything does well in the Wardian case, and being a focal point in my family room, it seems like it would be nice to have several flowering plants in there at all times. Last year I found that *Dend. cuthbertsonii* did very well in there - with bright flowers and almost constantly in bloom these were a great addition. Then Mary Gerritsen gave her talk on *Masdevallias* last November and supplied the opportunity table. I was lucky enough to win several plants. Mary helped me pick out non-*Masdevallias* - *Restripia antennifera*, *Pleurothallis niveoglobula*, and *Pleurothallis amparoana* (photo left)- since I have not done well getting *Masdevallias* to bloom for me in Fremont. (One flower on a plant is cause for major celebration.)

We often have a slew of small orchids with cute flowers for the Show & Tell table. While I admired these small flowers, I often times have found the combination of the number of plants and my limited time to spend examining them have not left me with the proper appreciation for them. Now that I have a few in the Wardian case, I finally "get it". Many of these little guys, are blooming constantly - with very interesting flowers. No wonder there are so many to bring in. While they would be hard to spot in my greenhouse, they are wonderful in the Wardian case.

On April 4th I visited a member greenhouse (Fred Shull's) and two small sales; one at Paul Chim's place in San Leandro and one at Paula Shiu's place in Richmond. It is interesting to see how the bigger and more advanced growing spaces are set up. This was also one of my first visits to these types of sales.

When I got to Paul and Phyllis Chim's I found one beautiful plant marked \$999. Being a very casual cymbidium grower (my small collection is full of untagged plants) I wondered if cymbidiums were like *Neofinetias* - with prices routinely in the stratosphere. However, I learned that Paul actually did not want to sell this, one of his favorite plants, but only had it out for display.

Paula Shiu had a lot of wonderful cymbidiums - roped off to keep us from trying to make off with her best plants. I ended up buying some very nicely priced seedlings of snap beans, coreopsis, sweet peas and *layia platyglossa* from her.

I learned that it is not so easy to find orchids that these orchid enthusiasts are willing to part with. But, they do display some of their best plants in bloom that I otherwise would not have had an opportunity to see. I would recommend making some outings to these yearly sales just to see some really nice orchids.

Lastly, my apologies, but most of the orchid photos in this issue are not labeled. Because we had the judging at our March meeting, many of the tags on the Show & Tell table were folded, and time was limited. I was also not inclined to pull tags out of plants when I visited greenhouses on April 4th.

See you at the potting clinic! Chaunie

Fred's place



Paul and Phyllis Chim's



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## Member News



*A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY:* **Cassandra Gaunt, Carl E. Jukkola, Dan Alvear, Eric Langland, Chih Lee, Elizabeth Lee, Elton Robinson, Mark Khoo, Tanya Lam, Carol Blake, Japheth Ko, Patsy Gower, Valerie Tonkin, Jocelyn Jamais, Elizabeth P. Lee, Ted Wuerthner, Cece Paape, Gregory J Corrales, Don Creavy , and Michael Green.**

*Welcome to new member* **Deirdre Hegarty!**

**Thank you Helen Frevel.** Helen made a donation to the society with her membership renewal. Also, **thank you Christine Kradjian** who also made a donation to the society with her membership renewal!

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## April Board Meeting

This month's board meeting will take place at the home of Sue Rose, prior to the potting clinic. Board members, and any other society members who wish to attend, please arrive by 10 AM - with your desserts for the lunch Sue is serving at the potting clinic. Sue's address is 1007 Forest Ct, Palo Alto. Please park on Forest Drive rather than on Forest Court. Sue's phone number is 650-322-9853.

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## Name Badges

Please remember to pick up your name badges to wear at our meetings. I have recently updated them, so new members finally have one and past members badges are no longer in the mix. Please remember to return your badge to the paper bag by the badge box at the end of the meeting.

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**Free Opportunity Table Tickets: Changed** - You will receive 2 strips of tickets for bringing refreshments to the meetings. You will also receive 2 strips of opportunity table tickets if you change from snail mail to e-mail for the newsletter.

**March meeting - AOS judging**

This meeting was very well attended and enjoyed by all. We had two groups of AOS judges judging members' submitted plants, with everyone allowed to hear and see how this was done. Also, we were able to ask questions about the process. Several plants were awarded at this judging session.

Our Show & Tell table is normally pretty fantastic. For the March meeting it was spectacular. Thanks to everyone who brought their plants in!





## Upcoming Events

**April 18 - Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Show and Sale** - San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Dr., San Mateo (yes, same place we have our meetings!) 10AM - 4PM - Free Admission. For more information call 408-741-2882 or go to [www.GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers.com](http://www.GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers.com)

**April 18-19 - Sacramento Orchid Society Show and Sale** - Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 6151 H Street, Sacramento - Sat. 10AM - 5 PM, Sun. 10AM - 4 PM - Admission \$5. For more information (916) 489-3263 or [www.sacramentoorchids.org](http://www.sacramentoorchids.org)

**April 18 - California Orchids Spring Sale** - 9AM-4PM - 515 Aspen Rd., Bolinas - Species and Hybrids, Seedling to Specimen sizes, Books, Bark, Supplies, Sound advice. Call (415) 868-0203 for directions or go to [www.californiaorchids.com](http://www.californiaorchids.com).

**April 25 - Peninsula Orchid Society April meeting and plant sale - 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM** - will take place at Sue Rose's house in the form of our annual potting clinic. There will be no general meeting on the 4th Friday of April.

**May 17 - Carmel Orchid Society Annual MayFaire Show & Sale** - 9 AM - 5 PM, at Hidden Valley Music Seminars, 88 W. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley Village, 11 miles East of Highway 1, ADMISSION IS FREE, Lots of Free Parking. For more information go to [www.carmelorchidsociety.org](http://www.carmelorchidsociety.org) or [www.cvgardenclub.org](http://www.cvgardenclub.org), or [www.hiddenvalleymusic.org](http://www.hiddenvalleymusic.org), or contact Carolyn Salmon, COS Chairperson at 375-3748 or [cargie@yahoo.com](mailto:cargie@yahoo.com)

**May 2-3 - D&D Flowers Spring Open House** - see details on next page.

**May 30-31 - Express Orchid Exhibition** - Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, 1350 N. Fourth St., San Jose - 9AM - 5 PM - see flyer on next page for details.

The Sacramento Orchid Society Presents the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual

# 2009 Orchid Show & Plant Sale

Saturday April 18, 10am - 5pm  
Sunday April 19, 10am - 4pm



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Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers

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Questions? Email [GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers@Yahoo.com](mailto:GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers@Yahoo.com), or call (408) 741-2882

Upcoming Events (cont.)

**May 2&3 - D&D Flowers Spring Open House and Sale** from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Half Moon Bay. The greenhouse is not open to the public except for the spring and fall open house events. Great prices on original divisions of Cattleyas, Oncidiums, Cymbidiums, Paphiopedilums, Phragmipediums and many more genera. Lots of seedlings. Really good deals... priced to sell. We accept cash or checks but no credit cards. There is no list of plants available and divisions are sold on first come for serve.

For every \$25 you spend, we will have you enter your society of choice for a raffle plant table. Last fall sale, the Napa Valley Orchid Society won this prize.

We are located in Half Moon Bay 1/3 mile east of Main Street off Hwy 92. Just east of Spanish Town on Hwy 92 there is a house and firewood business. Turn onto the street between the house and firewood business and go over the bridge into the greenhouse complex. D & D Flowers is the first greenhouse on the right. If you go beyond the large dinosaur statues in front of the house and Spanish Town and you are at Main Street, you've gone too far. Mahalo, Dennis



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**FROM I-880 South/East Bay:** Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit.- RIGHT onto N. First St.- RIGHT onto East Rosemary St.-LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

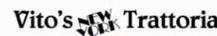
**FROM US-101 North:** Take I-880 South toward Santa Cruz - Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit.- RIGHT onto N. First St.- RIGHT onto East Rosemary St.-LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.



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### Unclassifieds

Members may advertise orchid related items. The ad is free. E-mail your ad to [the\\_sheath\\_editor@earthlink.net](mailto:the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net) or mail to 878 Cashew Way, Fremont, CA 94536. Be sure to include your name and phone number. Ads must be received by the 1st of the month to be included that month's newsletter.

**For Sale:** AOS Bulletins 1967-2009 \$150.00 or best offer. Al Testa, 408-243-7788 (Santa Clara)

Paula Shiu's place



### 2009 Board of Directors

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*Librarian:* Rex Castell 650-576-4637

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*Sheath Editor:* Chaunie Langland 510-494-8850 [the\\_sheath\\_editor@earthlink.net](mailto:the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net)

*Sheath Snail Mail Co-ordinator:* Susan Tong

*Accountant:* Sue Rose 650-322-9853

*Web Editor:* Fred Cox 650-321-3542

Society Mailing Address: P.O.Box 6894

Website address: <http://penorchidsoc.org>

San Mateo, CA 94403-6894

2009 Peninsula Orchid Society  
Membership Application or Renewal

Mail to: Chaunie Langland

878 Cashew Way Fremont, CA 94536

If you have not renewed your membership yet, you will be getting a reminder letter at the end of April. If you know you are not going to renew, please e-mail Chaunie at [the\\_sheath\\_editor@earthlink.net](mailto:the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net) or call and leave a message at (510) 494-8850.

-Please be sure to include the e-mail address to which you would like to have your copy of *The Sheath* sent. Please write "None" if you do not have an e-mail address. Your e-mail address will not be sold or given out.

Member Information (Please Print):

Name(s)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

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**Please Note: We really need your current e-mail address to save postage and printing for *The Sheath*. Also, you will receive last minute information about orchid related events if we have your e-mail address. Thanks!**

**E-mail:**

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Type of Membership:

Individual \$20.00  Additional Member Same Household \$10.00

Senior (55 and over) \$14.00  Additional Member Same Household \$10.00

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*(Membership fees are the same for all or part of the year.)*

Chaunie's area

Date paid \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. and amount \_\_\_\_\_

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For membership year February 1, 2009 to January 31, 2010

*Due to the SM Garden Center's decision to schedule another group into our slot in April, we will not be having our regular meeting in April. (Details inside)*

*Peninsula Orchid Society  
The Sheath  
Chaunie Langland, Editor  
878 Cashew Way  
Fremont, CA 94536*