

The Sheath

September General Meeting

Date: September 24, 2010

Doors Open: 7:00 PM

Place: San Mateo Garden Center

605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA

Take the Alameda de las Pulgas exit off of Hwy. 92.
The Garden Center is located between 26th and 28th
Avenues

Mailing address: P.O. Box 6894, San Mateo, CA 94403-6894

Skill Session at 7:00PM

Preparing your orchids for showing

Weegie Caughlan

**Meeting plus Show and
Tell Table - 7:45 PM
followed by**

**Speaker: Weegie
Caughlan**

Cymbidiums of 2010

**Opportunity table by
Weegie Caughlan**

Cymbidiums of 2010

Speaker - Weegie Caughlan

A leisurely walk through the Cymbidium entries at the major shows in Northern California as seen through the eyes of a judge.

For those with an eye on the Cymbidium World, Weegie Caughlan needs no introduction. She is known not only in California and the US, but world wide as one of the best amateur growers and exhibitors of the Cymbidium genus. She has won many local Best in Show awards as well as her fifth Grand Champion award this year at the prestigious Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. In 2000, she retired the Elm Estate Trophy given at POE after winning it for 10 years. Adding to this the many AOS and CSA awards over the years, some of them on her own crosses, shows Weegie not only exhibits a keen eye for quality but is truly a grower "par excellence". Her expertise and success in designing award winning orchid displays is also well documented.

Weegie started as a teenager many years ago by tending her mother's orchid collection as a way to

earn extra spending money. After her parents' deaths, she returned to her childhood home and again took over what remained of the Cymbidium collection. Love of the remaining species quickly turned to passion and the rest is history.

Weegie is currently the President of the Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers' Branch of the Cymbidium Society of America (CSA) for the second time. She is a past President of POS and the Malihini Orchid Society and a founding member of both the CSA branches in the bay area. She has been an accredited judge with the AOS for fifteen years. She claims to be slowing down and exhibiting less, but few have seen real evidence of it yet!

Skill Session: Weegie will give this month's skill session on Cymbidium Culture and show preparation.

Opportunity Table: A fantastic table will be supplied by Weegie. She says, "The plant table will be composed of divisions of my plants, many awarded, as well as some new seedlings. It is too early for anything in bloom but I hope I can find some showing spikes."



Milt. spectabilis var. *bicolor*
Chaunie Langland



Den. *Samurai*
Daniel Williamson



Waiting for the meeting
to start



Phal. violacea
Cordelia Wong



Monica and Jon-Michael



Phal. Baldan's Viper
Cordelia Wong



Our excellent speaker,
Norito Hasegawa



Paph. henryanum
Ann Stuart



Mtssa. Dennis Kleinbach
Daniel Williamson



Zo. *dyanum*
Ginette Sanchou



Milt. *Belvedere*
Chaunie Langland



Ros. williamsianum
C. Todd Kennedy

Member News



A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Pete Hodgson, Mary Jensen, Marjorie Chahal, Dennis Olivas, Al Testa, Amy Jacobsen, Kreg Martin, Phyllis Chim, Daniel Williamson, Mary Gerritsen, Sharon Langan, and Fred Shull!

Editor's corner

Look before you pluck!

It's not uncommon to find extra water loving plants living in pots and baskets with my orchids in the greenhouse. When I have time, I pluck the ferns and other assorted unauthorized competitors out of their perches. Last month I was cleaning out the basket that holds a *Miltonia spectabilis*. It had ferns and several other plants growing happily in the green moss (not sphagnum moss). As I grabbed one plant, I felt a surprising, but unfortunately not unknown, pain. There was stinging nettle growing in among the other pests! I will look more closely in the future.



In other surprising news, I actually got around to repotting a few desperate plants this month. (That is the surprising part.) A multi-growth *Maudia* type *paphiopedilum*, potted in a 3 inch pot, had a couple of growths with the wrinkling of the leaves typical of sub-optimal amounts of watering. While I don't repot often, I do water like a fiend. When I pulled the plant out of its pot, I discovered that the roots were only an inch long. The plastic pot had been designed with ventilation slits around the bottom two inches of the pot and the roots had stopped just above the ventilation slits. So much for my

theory that any person I buy an orchid from has superior potting techniques that should not be disturbed until absolutely necessary.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Show Must Go Off

One thing the Peninsula Orchid Society could count on, is the gregarious nature of orchid enthusiasts. In its varied past, the Society has been the sponsor of annual banquets, greenhouse visits, potlucks, open houses and bingo nights, all serving the purposes of mixing our members and providing them with occasions to talk. And talk together we have. And eat. And share a plant, or a growing technique, or a joke.

The Society has evolved slowly, along the lines of its membership. Orchid growing is no longer a fancy pastime for "professional men," as was stated in a 1930s catalog for the L. Sherman Adams orchid nursery. Nor is it the unique preserve of chatty wives, as it might have struck a visitor to our meetings in the 1950s. One incidental benefit from the ubiquity of orchids at big box retailers is that, at entry level at least, orchids are accessible now to all, and so is Peninsula Orchid Society.

Our programs have also evolved. No longer do we play bingo in August, or eat rubber chicken in January, or set up a stand to perform repotting for the public in the springtime. Our Board is ever vigilant to test the interest of our members in what the Society does and, if that interest fails, the programs will reflect it.

The auction remains a most popular social activity and is a service the Society performs. We provide a time and place when members and any of the public can exchange plants through the medium of bidding. That time is next month, and it is not too soon to look over your plans to decide what plant you can spare, what you cannot do justice to, and what will not perform within the limits of your growing conditions. If these plants are healthy, clean and desirable, they are plants for the POS Auction! Our website will soon have posted auction entry forms that you may fill in and submit electronically. We encourage all auction entries to be made ahead of the auction date. Because the auction is so popular, we must limit the number of entries from each member.

Another most popular activity is the Annual Show and Sale. Since 1997, this has become a social event extending over three days, with continuous food and beverage service for all volunteers (and who wasn't one?) and vendors, judges and the many spouses pressed into service. Add the all-day plant selling, the four or five growing seminars daily, the raffles and judging and what we have had is really a three-day-long orchid-themed party. Our member Rene Biggs had made this possible, serving as senior co-chair and chief balloon-filler for almost all of the past 14 years. But Rene no longer is able to make the show happen "as if by magic" - which has forced the POS Board members to think hard and unhappy thoughts about the scope of the show.

It has not been possible to identify a member who will serve as chair of the show for 2011, let alone two persons to serve as co-chairs. In my last column here, I described the issues: it seems everyone has something to do during December planning time; the nation has NFL to compete for attention during January weekends; rain inevitably falls on some part of the parade. We proposed moving the show to late spring to solve these. The few who spoke up, objected to a change of date, but no one volunteered to make it happen in January. Our Board has now proposed a reduction in the non-orchid expenses, food and refreshments which would much simplify the management of the show, but without a doubt there will be equal objection to those changes too. And still no one to chair the show.

Because of the manifest lack of interest in management of the show in January 2011, the Board at its meeting last week decided to suspend the show and its planning. We have booked the January date but will not pay for the show space when it is due; we have not requested AOS or CSA judges for the show date. POS is ever-evolving. The Board affirms its commitment to the program of monthly meetings, the Annual Auction, and the bus tour, but without a chair, The Show Must Go Off!

C. Todd Kennedy



Dendrochilum magnum
Al Testa



Milt. Connie Warne x Gayety
Barry Zimmerman



Anna Chai and Jung Hee Ra



Dan, Fred, and Cordelia were especially interested in hearing Norito's talk



Cym. Mem. Marvin Gaye
Chaunie Langland



Den. crysteallinum
Ginette Sanchou



Den. lamellatum
Fred Cox



Masd. florabunda
Carol Zoltowski



Cym. Mis Taipei
Chaunie Langland



Masd. hybrid
The Staals



Some people are always bugging me to take their photo!



Masd. Maggie Adalyn
The Staals

Upcoming Events

September 25 Coastal Valley Orchid Society's Orchid Expo. Grossman Gallery of the Lompoc Public Library 10 am – 4 pm. AOS Judging open to the public begins at noon;. Come see surrounding Central Coast Orchid Society displays, local grower displays how to grow outdoors, on a window sill, and in a greenhouse. Orchids for Sale by Central Coast Orchid Nurseries and Societies. Potting and mounting demonstration at 12 pm and 2 pm. Orchid Artwork on display as well. Admission is FREE!

October 22 Peninsula Orchid Society Annual Auction - details in the October Sheath, which will be available by October 6. The rules and schedule will be the same as last year. The October 2009 Sheath is available on our website: <http://penorchidsoc.org/>

- Plant and item check in from 5:00 to 6:30 PM
- Bidder registration begins at 5:00 PM
- The auction gets underway at 7:00 PM
- Please remember to bring cash or checks to the auction – we are not set up to accept credit cards.

Hanging Gardens Open Greenhouse Sale Saturday & Sunday, October 16 & 17

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Orchid species in and out of bloom
- Many rare and hard-to-find plants
- Cool to intermediate/warm growers
- Mature plants, seedlings, established and bare-root divisions
- Orchid companion plants
- Orchid growing supplies

Shelldance Nursery site, Coast Highway, Pacifica - east side of the highway, 3/10 mile north of Reina Del Mar Avenue.

Take the Highway 1 Pacifica exit from Highway 280 or Highway 35. Follow the long curve down the hill, then make a U-turn at Reina Del Mar Avenue, the first traffic light you come to on Highway 1. Turn right into the driveway marked by an orange sign saying "Orchids", and go up the hill to the unpaved parking lot. My greenhouse is the first one on the right side, just before you get to the parking lot. For more detailed directions, email hgardens@earthlink.net or call 415-305-8355.

Come to shop or just to browse - everyone is welcome!

Dan Newman



2010
Coastal Valley Orchid Society
Of Lompoc
Proudly Presents the Fourth Annual
**Orchid Expo
&
Sale**
This Year's Theme
'Orchids 101'
Saturday, September 25, 2010
10 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.
Lompoc Public Library
The Grossman Gallery

Come see surrounding Central Coast Orchid Society displays, local grower displays, how to grow outdoors, on a window sill, and in a greenhouse and learn about the Wonderful World of Orchids

Orchids for Sale by Central Coast Orchid Nurseries & Societies

Potting and mounting demonstration
12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Orchid Artwork on display

Accredited judges from the prestigious American Orchid Society (AOS) will be judging orchids beginning at 12 p.m. and the public is invited to observe the entire judging process!

Admission is FREE!

www.coastalvalleyorchidsociety.com

For more information contact Phil Rietz at 805-736-3020, Eileen Whitty at 805-733-2073, or Van Bivans at 805-735-4541



Rene, Mary, and Ginette donate a LOT of their time to the club



Dvl. Tinker Belles
The Staals



Den. laevifolium
Ginette Sanchou



Max. Sangay
The Staals



Phyllis and Paul



Bulb. erythrostictum
The Staals



Epi. Ross Newman 'Marion'
The Staals



Phal. bellina
Chaunie Langland



Bulb. Stars and Stripes 'Marion'



The August meeting was well attended



Rsrp. trichoglossa
Monica & Jon-Michael



L - R: Barry,
Kathy, and Dave



Paph. concolor var. *alba*
Fred Cox

Unclassifieds

Members may advertise orchid related items. The ad is free. E-mail your ad to 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.

Does anyone use OrchidWiz on a Mac using VMware Fusion with Windows XP? If so, could you contact me? I'm having trouble loading the upgrades. -Linda Locatelli (orchidlady@cruzio.com) or 831-426-5631.

Summary of Todd's message: We need someone (or some two) to volunteer to take the job of show chairman, or there will not be a 2011 show.

Almost everything is already in place, the date, the venue, many of the section chairs. Yes, it is still a lot of work. If we don't have our show, it will hurt our vendors, we will miss out on a chance to add new members, and we will miss out on a lot of fun. There are also financial ramifications. Don't hesitate - volunteer!

2010 Board of Directors

<i>President:</i> Todd Kennedy 415-664-8851	<i>Vice President:</i> Mary Gerritsen 650-348-6492
<i>Treasurer:</i> Trudy Hadler 510-483-1277	<i>Rec. Secretary:</i> Rebecca Grubbs 650-560-9037
<i>Corr. Secretary:</i> Judy Evans 650-593-8625	<i>Membership CP:</i> Janusz Warszawski 650-964-0560
<i>Ways & Means CP:</i> Randall Takemoto-Hambleton 408-390-4324	
<i>Past President:</i> Ken Jacobsen 650-631-4235	<i>Director at Large:</i> Dan Williamson 650-963-9403
<i>Director at Large:</i> Paul Reeve 650-366-3251	<i>Director at Large:</i> Sharon Langan 650-365-7160

Chairpersons

<i>AOS Rep:</i> Mary Gerritsen 650-348-6492	<i>Librarian:</i> Rex Castell 650-576-4637
<i>Refreshment Chairpersons:</i> Rebecca Grubbs & Monica and Jon-Michael Irvin 650-921-4699	
<i>Sheath Editor:</i> Chaunie Langland 510-494-8850 the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net	
<i>Sheath Snail Mail Co-ordinator:</i> Jackie Becker	<i>Accountant:</i> Sue Rose
<i>Web Editors:</i> Fred Cox & Cordelia Wong	<i>Society Mailing Address:</i> P.O.Box 6894
<i>Website address:</i> http://penorchidsoc.org	San Mateo, CA 94403-6894

Time to put together a new slate of officers for 2011

It's amazing how quickly time flies. Once again we will be looking for a new group of board members. You don't need to be an orchid expert to help the society out by serving on the board. The monthly board meeting is a great place to pick up orchid culture tips. Some positions have duties that require a significant investment of time and effort (Vice President, Ways and Means), while others are more gentle in their duties. If you take on a position that requires a lot of work, there is no rule that requires you to do it all yourself - there are several society members who are glad to help but don't want to commit to the position.

If you are interested in serving on the board, or on the nominating committee, don't be shy. Let Todd Kennedy know. Or ask for details about any position you are interested in - just call the board member listed in the directory section of the previous page.

Peninsula Orchid Society
The Sheath
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