

The Sheath

April General Meeting

Date: April 27, 2012

Time: Doors open at 7:00PM

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

Learn your TDS number

Chaunie Langland

Meeting plus Show and

Tell Table - 7:45 PM

followed by

Speaker:

Cynthia Hill

**Growing specimen
orchids**

Opportunity table by

Cynthia Hill

The Joys and Challenges of Growing Specimen Orchids

Speaker: **Cynthia Hill**

Cindy's lifelong love of nature and wildlife led her to major in Biology at Lawrence University in Appleton, WI. She has been growing orchids for pleasure for over 30 years, beginning on a kitchen windowsill in St. Louis, with a plants ordered by mail from Orchids by Hausermann, in Chicago. (Remember catalogs?) When she moved to southern California in 1982, she started growing plants outside on a small patio, and in a 7x7 ft lean-to greenhouse at her home in Solana Beach. Even in her small yard, microclimates of temperature, light and moisture existed; she began to extend her growing area and collection, hanging plants in an orange tree and in the 5 ft -wide alleyway behind the garage and growing pots on plastic utility shelving set against the walls of the house. She moved to the Bay Area in 2005, and now grows around 1200 species orchids in an intermediate greenhouse in Berkeley. Favorite genera include Dendrobium, Coelogyne, Holcoglossum, Miltoniopsis and Laelia, and she is particularly fond of miniatures and the 'weird and

wonderful'. Plants she has cultivated have received the highest AOS quality and cultural awards, as well as the Benjamin Kodama and Carlyle A. Luer Annual Awards from the American Orchid Society.

Cindy has traveled to observe orchids in the wild in Madagascar, Borneo, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand, Guatemala, Ecuador, and Peru. These experiences have helped her develop an understanding of what an orchid's natural habitat looks, sounds, smells and feels like, which she applies to her cultivation methods. She has been a member of the conservation committee of both the American Orchid Society and San Diego County Orchid Society. She served as Acting Editor of Orchid Digest magazine for five years, and is currently a member of the Publication Committee of both the AOS and Orchid Digest; her articles have been published in both magazines. Her favorite pastime now - other than orchids - is serving as a docent in the evolution specialty group at the California Academy of Sciences, in Golden Gate Park, where she continues to learn about the natural world, and to share her enthusiasm for it with others.

Skill Session: The skill session will take place from 7:10 - 7:25 in the Rose Room. Bring your tap water and/or the water you use for your orchids (about 1 cup). Chaunie will bring her TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) meter and give you an idea of how hard your water is. Some orchids don't mind hard water at all. Others will slowly die off from the chemicals and dissolved solids in tap water.

Opportunity Table

The opportunity table will be supplied by Cynthia Hill!

Upcoming Events

May 6 - 8 Orchid Society of California Mother's Day Weekend Show & Sale - Noon to 6PM Friday, 10AM - 5PM Saturday & Sunday. Show information is posted at: <http://www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com/aboutshow>. The show will have AOS, CSA and ribbon judging. You are all invited to participate in the show. The general setup for the show will be on Friday, May 7th, 8AM to 1PM. You may bring your plants for judging or exhibition by 6PM Friday May 6th or 8:30AM Saturday May 7th. Judging will commence at 9AM Saturday, May 7th. For the list of classes, go to http://www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com/May_show_schedule.html. A wide variety of blooming orchids and orchid related materials will be for sale.

Gold Country Orchids Open House, May 11-13, 390 Big Ben Road, Lincoln, 916-645-8600.

May 19-20 D & D Flowers Spring Open House. See flyer on the next page.

June 1 San Jose Orchid Exposition Orchid Conservation Fund Raiser. Winchester Mystery House, San Jose. 6:30PM to 9:30 PM. How many fund raisers can you attend for \$10? All of the entrance funds raised go to the Orchid Conservation Alliance (<http://www.orchidconservationalliance.org/>) Have first choice of plants for sale by Andy's Orchids, Cal-orchid, Gold Country Orchids, Golden Gate Orchids, Oz Gardens, Paphanatics Unlimited, Seed Engei and Tanya Lam Orchid Supplies; the vendors will pay the sales tax during the fund raiser. There will be wine tasting, party food, and a special speaker.

June 2-3 San Jose Orchid Exposition. Winchester Mystery House, San Jose. Saturday 9AM - 6PM, Sunday 10AM - 5 PM. Vendors listed above. FREE admission and skill sessions. Wine tasting. Orchid raffle. Come and buy orchids you don't get to see in bloom during the show season! (Ed: I bought my *Comparettia macroplectron*, that won an AOS award at our show this year, from Tom Perlite at this event last year. And other great plants too!)

June 23rd Peninsula Orchid Society Greenhouse Bus Tour. We are going NORTH this year! Dan will announce details and accept checks at the April and May meetings.

August 4 Sierra Nevada Judging Center presents Speaker's Day. Details closer to the event - admission \$10 for the entire day - lunch available for purchase on-site. This is a don't miss event for access to great speakers at a nominal cost. Plan on it! Spend the night and enjoy a visit to Old Town Sacramento and the fabulous train museum. Dine on a river boat. There are some extraordinary nurseries east of Sacramento. There is plenty to do there to make a weekend of it.

Saturday, September 29th - Peninsula Orchid Society Annual Auction!

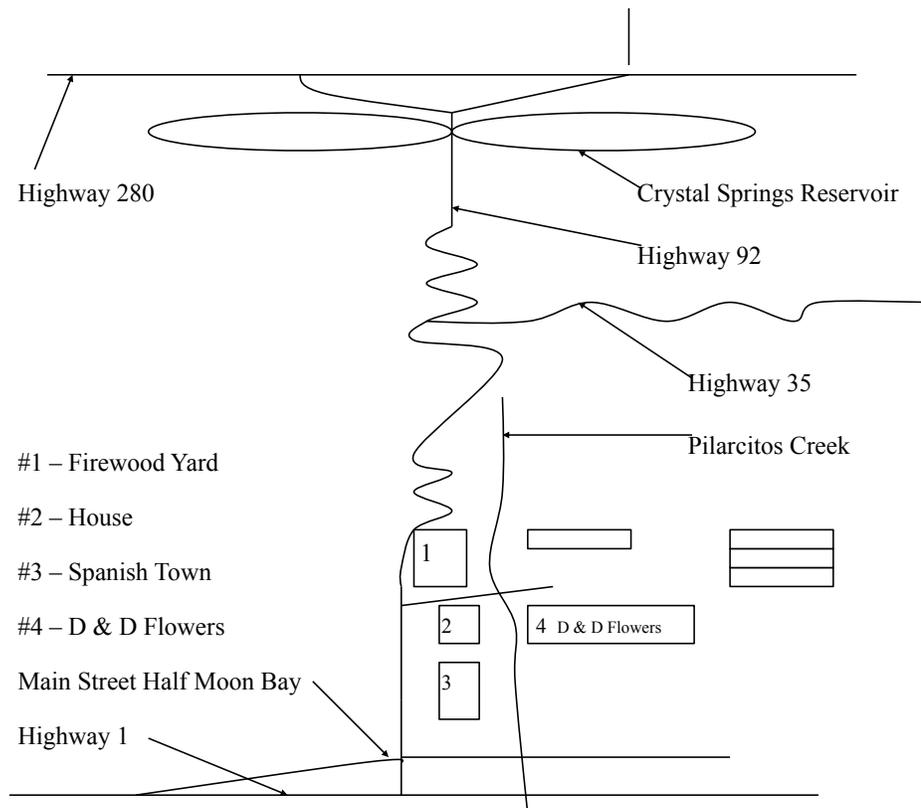
D & D Flowers Half Moon Bay (925) 969-1246

**Spring Open House
May 19th & 20th, 2012
9:00 AM to 3 PM**

(D & D Flowers is not open to the public except for our bi-annual open house events)

Really good deals... priced to sell. There is no list of plants available and divisions are sold on first come for serve. We will be having a \$7.00 sale on many cattleya, oncidium and cymbidium seedlings and back bulbs. We accept cash or checks but no credit cards.

Help your local orchid society. For every \$25 you spend, you may enter your local orchid society in a raffle for their monthly opportunity table. 30 healthy plants (some in bloom) will be award to the winning society. Winning society will be picked at the end of Sunday. The society must redeem their prize to D & D Flowers within 6 months of this sale.



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.



Cattleya intermedia
Fred Shull



Cattleya Suavis
Fred Shull



Cattleya lueddemanniana
Fred Shull



Cattleya intermedia v. orlata
Fred Shull



Fred shares the correct lifting method to use in **Level I** of his popular "Greenhouse Fitness Program for Hobby Growers"



Ron was a good sport and showed that it isn't as easy as it looks to attain that height with your lift



Brassolaeliocattleya Haw Yuan Beauty
Janusz Warszawski



Cymbidium Psyctic x Karen
Janusz Warszawski



Cymbidium Kiri Te Kanawa
Janusz Warszawski



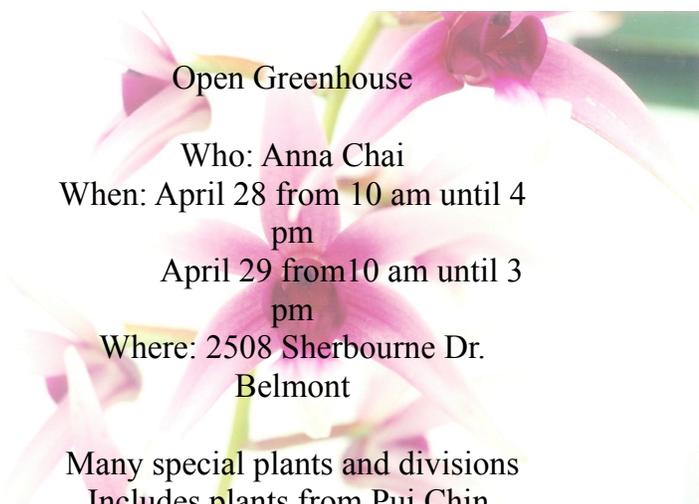
No name
Janusz Warszawski



Brassolaeliocattleya Mem. Anna Balmores
Pierre Pujol

Member Greenhouse Orchid Sales This Weekend:

Anna Chai will be selling off most of her two warm greenhouse orchids this weekend on Saturday and Sunday.

**Open Greenhouse**

Who: Anna Chai

When: April 28 from 10 am until 4 pm

April 29 from 10 am until 3 pm

Where: 2508 Sherbourne Dr.
Belmont

Many special plants and divisions
Includes plants from Pui Chin,
Ken & Amy Jacobsen and Fred Shull

Gerardus Staal will have his greenhouse open again this Saturday. I was there at the end of the day last Saturday and there are still hundreds of great plants available. Plenty are potted. Afraid you can't maintain plants on the cocopoles? Guess what, you can move those special plants to pots after you get them home!

Greenhouse demolition sale on Saturday April 28 from 10 to 4

All plants must go and are priced accordingly !

**Gerardus Staal
635 Marion Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650 328 2404**

**Directions: From 101 and 280 take Oregon expressway.
Marion Avenue is the next parallel street South of Oregon and
our block is between Cowper and Middlefield.**

Editor's Corner

Here it is, the middle of April (well, when I started writing this), and I still have several plants in bloom that were in bloom for our show in January. Just amazing!

I am seriously contemplating putting up a new greenhouse this summer - just 8 x 14 or 10 x 12, but certainly a little larger than my 6 x 8, and better organized now that I understand what would work better than the current set-up.

I have a huge number of plants that need to be repotted. And I need to spend more time in active pursuits rather than sitting in front of the computer so much.

What this boils down to is that **I am going to turn my job as newsletter editor over to someone else**, no later than three months from now. Who is that person? I don't know. Maybe you! If no one is interested in becoming the newsletter editor, then I will still be retiring from the job no later than the day after the July newsletter comes out.

Newsletter editor is a great job! I didn't know very many people by name when I started. I didn't know much about growing orchids, either. All that changed with editing the newsletter. Now I know the names of most of our members who attend meetings (in spite of my bad memory for names and faces) and I have learned enough about growing orchids to have reached that happy place where there is always something in bloom in the greenhouse. All of this was facilitated by the duties that go with the position.

I want to thank Jackie Becker again. She has spent several years now printing, labeling, and mailing the snail mail version of the newsletter. Without her help the snail mail version would have ended up arriving two weeks after the meeting most of the time. THANK YOU JACKIE!! Also very deserving of thanks are the many people who have given their time proof reading the newsletter. Rene Biggs, Weegie Caughlan, Mary Gerritsen, Ken Jacobsen, Carl Jukkola, Todd Kennedy, Dan Newman, Dennis Olivas, Dan Williamson, and Janusz Warszawski have all helped out on a semi-regular basis over the years. (No, they don't all proof each newsletter. If they did there would be no errors and then what would people do for fun? Also - this month's newsletter has not been proofed by anyone.)

I also want to thank all of you who have read the newsletter and encouraged me to keep editing it. I have really enjoyed the entire experience.

I hope you have just been biding your time, waiting for this opportunity. Fun, challenge, another skill to add to your resume - give it a try!

Everything seems to be putting out new growths right now. Remember that your orchids may need to have calcium this time of year. Calcium is fixed in the cells, so if the new growth is short on calcium, that's it - it can't be stolen from the older growths and you can't add it later. You can use crushed oyster shells, crushed egg shells, or one of the few fertilizers that has calcium in it if you suspect or know that your water doesn't have it in a form usable by your orchids.

Chaukie

Member News



A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Karen Bartholomew, Greg Corrales, Don Creavy, Rosalie Dedo, Mary Donoghue, Cassandra Gaunt, Lynn Gentry, Michael Green, Jocelyn Jamias, Carl E. Jukkola, Mark Khoo, Japheth Ko, Tanya Lam, Eric Langland, Elizabeth Lee, Joe Lee, Jr., Elaine Levenson, Melly Metcalf, Valerie Tonkin and Ted Wuerthner.

Thank You!! The following people brought refreshments to the March meeting to share with everyone:

Judy and Clint Evans, Mike Rector, Ginette Sanchou, Tony Gee, and Susan Tong.

Webpage of interest!

New Species of Orchids from Vietnam:

<http://www.hoalanvietnam.org/Article.asp?ID=828>

Your Botanical Latin Vocabulary for April

(will there be a test?)

Phalaenopsis pulchra

pulcher - beautiful

Phalaenopsis fuscata

fusci-, fusco - dark or dark brown; fuscus - a somber brown

Neofinetia falcata

falcatus - curved like a sickle

Maxillaria lepidota

lepidotus - covered with small scales

Coelogyne ochracea

ochraceus - ochre-yellow, yellowish-brown

Ascocentrum pumilum

pumilus - dwarf, close-growing, short

Laelia anceps

anceps, ancipitius - two-edged

Go to www.orchidspecies.com/ to look at photos of any of these that you are not familiar with and see how these names relate to the appearance of the flower or plant.



Gerardus gave a skill session on the construction of his famous mounting method - cocosticks



Laelia Anceps 'Marble Queen'
Anna Chai



Paphiopedilum Charlie Tiger



Dendrobium falcorostrum
Anna Chai



Maxillaria picta
Mary Gerritsen



Cymbidium Mem. Goeff Laird
first bloom seedling
Terry Boomer



No name
Susan Tong



In **Level II**, the plant is much larger and you don't need quite as much height to achieve excellent results.



Masdevallia ignea x Leopard Spots
Mary Gerritsen



Cymbidium (tag blocked)
First bloom Jeff Trimble

Level III is not pictured so as to discourage people from trying this level without adequate supervision. I will just mention that Level III involves a plant grown by Jerry Rodder.



Masdevallia Geneva Spots
Mary Gerritsen

Gold Country Orchids Open House



Friday, May 11
Saturday, May 12
Sunday, May 13

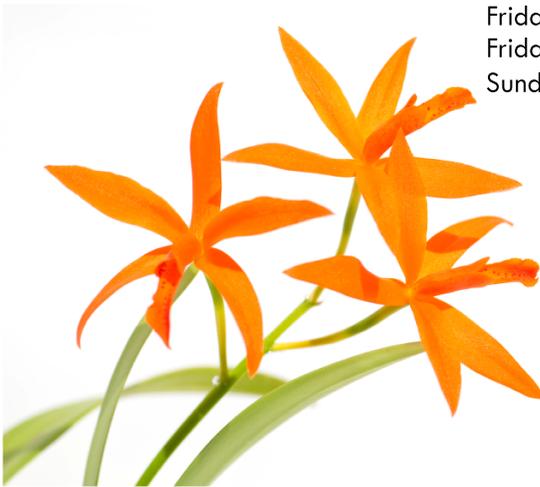
9am - 5pm
9am - 5pm
11am - 4pm

Discounts up to **80% off** regular prices

Educational Classes:

Friday & Saturday - 11am
Friday & Saturday - 2pm
Sunday - 1pm

Repotting: How, When, and Why
Pest & Disease Management
Plant Diagnosis - Bring yours in a bag!



Free Orchids:

Bring this flyer for a free plant on purchases of \$15 or more; or receive a 30% discount on purchases of \$100 or more.

Mothers receive a FREE gift on Sunday.

Gold Country Orchids

390 Big Ben Road, Lincoln, CA 95648
916.645.8600
www.GoldCountryOrchids.com

Interested in back copies of the AOS Bulletin, AOS quarterly, Sander's List of Hybrids (various years)? (Mostly between 1965–1990)

There are a large number of these available FREE to whomever would like them. If interested, please contact Mary Gerritsen meg570@comcast.net



SAN JOSE ORCHID EXPOSITION

Preview Night Evening Appointments Catered by The Award-Winning Sonoma Chicken Coop

Photo © Eric Hunt 2012 All Rights Reserved www.realsorchidgrowers.com

ORCHID GROWING SKILL SESSIONS
Saturday & Sunday, June 2-3, 2012
11:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Hang out with our Cool Green Friends

ORCHID SALES & WINE TASTING

Friday June 1, 2012 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
Saturday June 2, 2012 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday June 3, 2012 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

ORCHID CONSERVATION ALLIANCE BENEFIT
Friday June 1, 2012 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

PREVIEW NIGHT
Friday, June 1, 2012 6:30 PM-9:30 PM
WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE®
525 S. Winchester Blvd., San Jose, CA 95128
\$10.00 admission per person is donated to the Orchid Conservation Alliance. Vendors pay the sales tax on the Preview Night Evening.
Event Website www.realsorchidgrowers.com
Find Real Orchid Growers on Facebook.com

Winchester Mystery House®



SAN JOSE ORCHID EXPOSITION 7

WINE TASTING • ORCHID SALES • ORCHID GROWING SKILL SESSIONS
Winchester Mystery House®, June 1-3, 2012
525 S. Winchester Blvd., San Jose, CA 95128
FRIDAY June 1 6:30pm-9:30pm • SATURDAY June 2 9:00am-5:00pm • SUNDAY June 3 10:00am-5:00pm

Golden Gate Orchids
Gold Country Orchids
Seed Engel
LORNA CHICKEN
SERIES CELLARS
GODIVA
Coca

Andy's Orchids
Cal-Orchid
Paphosize Unlimited
O-GARDENS
Fenestra Wines
oca

Event Information 408.623.0413
Visit us at: www.realsorchidgrowers.com
FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING
Find REAL ORCHID GROWERS on Facebook.com

Andy's Orchids has a huge special orchid - over 6,000 species given!

Cal Orchid is exhibiting 8 orchid hybrids from around the world
Gold Country Orchids specializing in exhibiting Mini Cattleyas
Golden State Orchids some specialty and hybrid of Cattleyas
O-Gardens the world's finest Submedia hybrids
Paphosize Unlimited renowned hybridizer of slipper orchids
Best Single var. Japanese orchid

Advance orchid purchases for preview starting alone tables are seasonal Contact sellers for details.

FREE Beginner Orchid Growing Skill Sessions expert growers instruct you on how to grow orchids successfully for your growing conditions. Each unit session features a full presentation and Q&A and a visit session.

Directions
FRIDAY 6:30-9:30 PM: Bay Area 408.623.0413 to San Jose, San Francisco Bay area. At daylight on 217. Arrive early (before 6:00 PM) on 217. In the morning, the Winchester Mystery House® will be located on the left.
FRIDAY 6:30-9:30 PM: Bay Area 408.623.0413 to San Jose, San Francisco Bay area. From 408.623.0413 on Highway 880, turn right on 217. In the morning, the Winchester Mystery House® will be located on the left.
FRIDAY 6:30-9:30 PM: Bay Area 408.623.0413 to San Jose, San Francisco Bay area. From 408.623.0413 on Highway 880, turn right on 217. In the morning, the Winchester Mystery House® will be located on the left.

For full-data size copies of these posters, which have a lot of detail and are too large to include in the newsletter for general distribution, please contact Chaunie at the_shearth_editor@earthlink.net and ask to have the originals forwarded.

Filoli Flower Show

Peninsula Orchid Society will be helping Filoli with their Mother's Day weekend Flower Show by providing a display of beautiful blooming orchids. **Mike Rector** will be accepting orchids for the display at the San Mateo Garden Center on Wednesday, May 9th and he will be taking the orchids over to Filoli the next day. Your orchids will be available to be reclaimed after 3:30 PM on Sunday, May 13th. Mike will have details available when you drop your plants off, or contact him before then. His contact info is available in the board listings at the end of the newsletter. For information on the flower show, go to <http://www.filoli.org/special-events-and-exhibits/flower-show.html>



Tuberolabium woodii
Ginette Sanchou



Ask Ginette Sanchou



Ask Ginette Sanchou



Ask Linda Tripp



Phalaenopsis parishii
Mary Gerritsen



Masdevallia Thumbelina
Mary Gerritsen

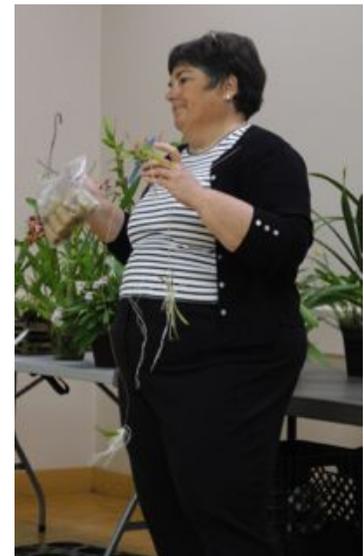


Masdevallia Ask
Mary Gerritsen



Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom
Chaunie Langland

Ask Mary Gerritsen



Susan Wedegaertner showed us how she mounts some of her Tolumnias on corks

Dendrobium Oriental Smile 'Fantasy'
Chaunie Langland



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.

Wanted: Newsletter editor for monthly POS newsletter

Monthly speaker bios provided by VP. Format at your discretion. Make it your own! Samples of other society newsletters available upon request.

2012 Board of Directors

E-mail addresses have been included in a form that can not be scraped from the newsletter. You know what to do.

President: Mike Drilling

mike(dot)drilling at gmail(dot)com

Treasurer: Sharon Langan 650-365-7160

Corr. Secretary: Judy Evans 650-593-8625

Ways & Means CP: Dan Williamson 650-963-9403

enki_29205 at yahoo(dot)com

Director at Large: Eric Levenson 650-793-1227

eric_levenson at pacbell(dot)net

Vice President: Chaunie Langland 510-494-8850

the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net

Rec. Secretary: Mike Rector 650-366-3401

mrector at verizon(dot)net

Membership CP: Janusz Warszawski 650-964-0560

janwar at sbcglobal(dot)net

Director at Large: Joseph Kautz 650-796-8287

Director at Large: Barry Zimmerman 408-262-5782

Chairpersons

AOS Rep: Chaunie Langland 510-494-8850

Librarian: Rex Castell 650-576-4637

Refreshment Chairpersons: Susan Tong and Patrick Hoe

Sheath Editor: Chaunie Langland 510-494-8850 the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net

Sheath Snail Mail Co-ordinator: Jackie Becker

Accountant: Sue Rose 650-322-9853

Web Editor: Dan Williamson

Society Mailing Address: P.O.Box 6894

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

San Mateo, CA 94403-6894

2012 Peninsula Orchid Society
 Membership Application or Renewal
 Mail to: Janusz Warszawski - Membership
 1227 Monte Verde Ct., Los Altos, CA 94024

Member Information (Please Print):

Name(s)

(1) _____ Birthmonth _____

(2) _____ Birthmonth _____

Address: _____

_____ ZipCode _____

Phone: _____

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. Your contact information is never sold! Thanks.

E-mail:

(1) _____

(2) _____

Type of Membership:

- Individual \$20.00 Additional Member Same Household \$10.00
- Senior (55 and over) \$14.00 Additional Member Same Household \$10.00
- Business \$26.00

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

Membership Chair's area

Date paid _____ Check No. and amount _____

Receipt No. _____ Cash Amount _____

Our membership year runs from February 1 through January 31 of the next year, regardless of the date on which you begin or renew your membership

*Don't miss the great
greenhouse sales this
weekend
at
Anna Chai's
(Belmont)
and
Gerardus Staal's
(Palo Alto)*

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