

The Sheath

AOS Judging

Date: May 23

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 Hwy 92, turn South.
The Garden Center is located between 26th and 28th
Avenues.

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

NO SKILL SESSION

Doors open at 7:00pm

7:30PM Special AOS Judging &
Seminar

Enter plants for judging by
7:15pm.

Presentation of the show and tell
table will follow judging.

AOS Judging

- by Carol Zoltowski

Does this sound familiar?

You go to an orchid show and see two lovely orchids side by side that look the same to your eye and wonder why one got an American Orchid Society award and one didn't? Did you ever go to an orchid meeting and see folks in another room peering intently at one orchid on the table, sometimes using a magnifying glass and talking about things like texture, substance, arrangement on an inflorescence, floriferousness, etc.? Wonder just what is an AM or an HCC anyway?

I am willing to bet that those who are honest will admit to something like that with their first exposure to AOS judging. We have all been there, even me in the beginning. I remember doing exactly that at my first Pacific Orchid Exposition way back when.

Now is your chance to 'demystify' the happenings in that room with the odd lingo and behaviors-learn about the good stuff of AOS judging and not too much about the bad or the ugly. The AOS judges and students of the Pacific Central Judging Region will be judging your plants during the May POS meeting. You will be able to ask questions of the judges as they do their evaluations. And we will be projecting the database, AQPlus, that holds the history of past awards upon which a given plant is evaluated that is consulted during the judging process.

The emphasis during this program will be judging as it happens and the questions that are asked as assessments are generated and balanced against prior awards for that particular orchid. We hope everyone will bring in plants for evaluation. Everyone that brings in a plant for judging will be considered and if the time is growing short, we will continue judging outside of the meeting room in the room where the skill sessions are held.

AOS judging can be slightly different from ribbon judging. Both do evaluate flower quality however the AOS judges and awards to a national/international standard that has been developed throughout the AOS history of judging and awarding orchids. Judges take into account parentage characteristics as well as the general impression of the orchid in question. Not only are awards given for flower quality but they can be given to the owner of the orchid for spectacular growth. Do judges know everything there is about orchids? Absolutely not. Do judges disagree with each other? Certainly. Do personalities come into play?-sadly sometimes.

Judges are humans and fallible; we hope the process of AOS judging in a group evens out inconsistencies, personality conflicts, even errors in judgments.

There is another part of the judging that we won't be demonstrating and that is the administrative side. For plants that are awarded there are forms to complete-lots of paperwork that has measurements, descriptions and photographs that are taken and submitted for incorporation into the national database. That is not the most interesting aspect of judging so we will do that behind the scenes for this program-don't worry. Anyone who wants to know more about that aspect of it is welcome to observe after the program.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MAY 23, 2014

Because AOS judging is supposed to be an anonymous process, there are a couple things we'll need to do for this meeting that are different than usual. First, please bring in plants for the show-and-tell table as usual, especially if you think the flowers are exceptional for that particular type of orchid, but please don't stop to tell any of the judges about your plant as you do this. If a judge knows that a particular plant belongs to a specific person, they must excuse themselves from judging that plant. The meeting will commence at 7:30 this month, and after announcements, we'll start the judging process immediately. Any plants where judging has been specifically requested will be judged - forms will be at the meeting for requesting judging. Also, the show-and-tell table will be viewed by the judges to see if there are additional plants they feel worthy of a closer look. Once judging is finished, we'll have a short break, introduce the awarded plants and the show-and-tell table. If the judges award your plant, then that's wonderful. If you don't get an award, that doesn't mean your plant isn't exceptional, only that the judges are looking at attributes of a plant and flower which may be different than you see when you look at the flower. Especially with orchids, beauty is very much in the eye of the beholder. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to get plants AOS judged without having to go to San Francisco or Oakland. Hopefully, we'll all learn more about AOS judging, see some special plants, and have fun in the process!

As a coming attraction, the Pacific Central AOS judges will be back two more times in 2014 for judging at a POS meeting. Both events will be scheduled during the time when the skill session normally occurs. Timing for entering your plants for judging and further details will follow. And of course you will be able to observe ... but mum is the word if it is your plant or if you know whose plant it is...shhhhhh. So mark your calendars ... July 25 and October 24. We hope to see you on May 23 and in July and October with your terrific plants so you can join in the fun!

The opportunity table will be provided by Dennis Olivas.

Repot Me!

Repotting Clinic at San Mateo Garden Center 1 – 3 PM Saturday 10 May

Our knowledgeable and accommodating POS repotting team will be at their stations in the Garden Center meeting room this Saturday afternoon to show members and the public the how orchids are potted.

If you have a plant that's been crying out "Repot Me!", now's your chance to have it done right and done FOR FREE (one per customer and at a nominal cost thereafter). We will show you what is the right container, the right medium and the right plant for your growing space.

How often to repot? Learn from our repotters since it varies by orchid type. What time to repot? Read the plant's signals that the season is right. How to save a pot and the plant, virus clean technique and where to get supplies are all knowledge you can get from our team members on this once-a-year opportunity.

Bus Trip

Sign up now to join the 2014 Greenhouse Bus Tour. We will combine with the Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society on Saturday, June 7th to get out there and buy some orchids. The cost is \$39 per person and that includes lunch. (Thanks Judy!!!) The bus will depart from the light rail parking lot at the corner of Curtner and Canoas Garden in San Jose at 8:35 AM **SHARP**. We will visit Matsui Orchid Nursery, Bay Breeze Orchid Nursery, Valley Orchids and South Pacific Orchids. We expect to be back around 4:30 PM. We are using the same bus company and bus size as we did for last year's trip. Yes, there is air conditioning and a restroom. Anyone is welcome to join the trip - society members, your neighbors, friends, co-workers, relatives.

To sign up e-mail Chaunie Langland at chaunie.langland@earthlink.net, or send her your check, (made out to Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society) at 878 Cashew Way, Fremont 94536, or call her at (510) 494-8850 or sign up at the April or May meetings. (If you are signing up at the May meeting, please let Chaunie know ahead of time as we need a certain number of people to break even on this trip.)

A big thanks to Kristina Bell, president of SCVOS for organizing the trip and to Judy Evans for offering to handle the food for lunch.

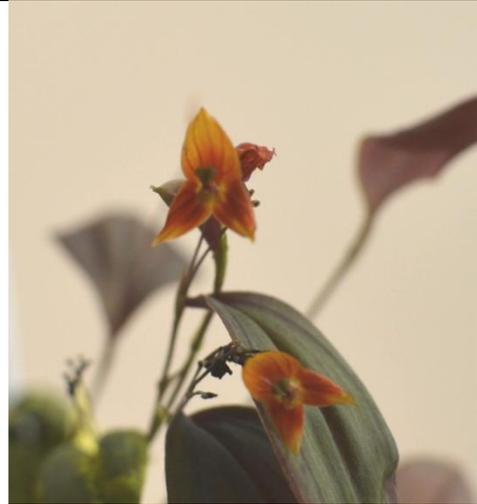
Come along and spend a whole day talking about orchids!

Meeting Photos

(Photos by Dan Williamson)



Dracula vampria
Chaunie Langland



Lepanthes niesseniae
Mary Gerritsen



Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi
Gloria Bygdnes



Pterocerus semiteretifolium
Donna Horn



Cattlianthe Gold Digger
Ann Rigel



Miltoniopsis Bert Field 'Eileen'
Gloria Bygdnes



Phalaenopsis Surf Song
Nan Orman



Phragmipedium besseae
Chaunie Langland



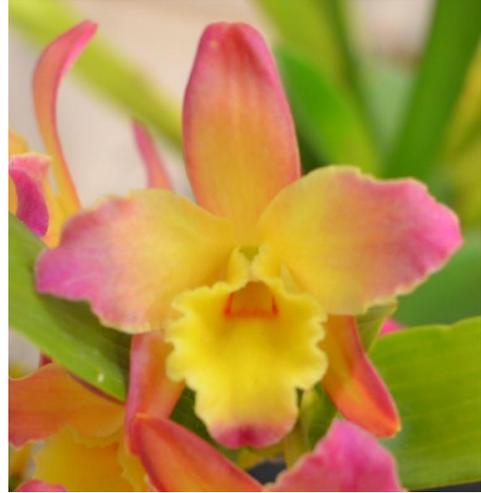
Phalaenopsis stuartiana
Chaunie Langland



Sarcophilus (Sweet Melody x Hot Ice 'Pink
Perfection')
Dan Williamson



Lycaste Reina Del Cisne 'Rose'
Chaunie Langland



Dendrobium Oriental Smile 'Fantasy'
Donna Horn



Dendrobium (*stricklandianum* x Flower Baby)
Mary Gerritsen



Oncidium Lincade
C. Todd Kennedy



Vanda javierae
C. Todd Kennedy



Renanthera imshootiana
C. Todd Kennedy



Cattleya Claesinter
Donna Horn



Masdevallia coccinea 'Snowbird'
Donna Horn



Masdevallia ignea
Jasen Liu



Oncostele Wildcat 'Leopard'
Gloria Bygdnes



Cattlianthe Jewel Box 'Scheherazade'
Ann Rigel



Oncidium (Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl' HCC/AOS
x Nichirei Sunrise 'Red Delicious' HCC/AOS)
Janusz Warszawski



Paphiopedilum Kevin Porter
Terry & Margaret Boomer



Masdevallia infracta
Kathy Parker



Masdevallia Georgian Franczyk 'Glowing'
Terry & Margaret Boomer



Phragmipedium (*wallsii* 'Green Giant' x
caudatum 'Daddy Long Legs')
Chris Mende



Oncidium Jacob's Coat
C. Todd Kennedy



Cattleya aelandiae 'Richter's Best' x 'Dark
Knight'
Eric Levenson



Cattleya coccinea
Eric Levenson



Cattleya purpurata 'Pedreira'
C. Todd Kennedy



Dendrobium hainanense 'Eun Sook' HCC/AOS
Anna Chai



Paphiopedilum tigrinum
Chris Mende



Cattleya Mildred Rives 'Orchidglade' FCC/AOS
Eric Levenson



Sarcophilus hartmannii 'Yongse' HCC/AOS
Anna Chai



Masdevallia caudata 'Belmont Highlands' HCC/AOS
Anna Chai



Cattleya purpurata 'Equilab' AM/AOS
C. Todd Kennedy



Masdevallia Bella Donna 'Cow Hollow' HCC/AOS
Anna Chai



Cymbidium Bellissimo
Bill Weaver



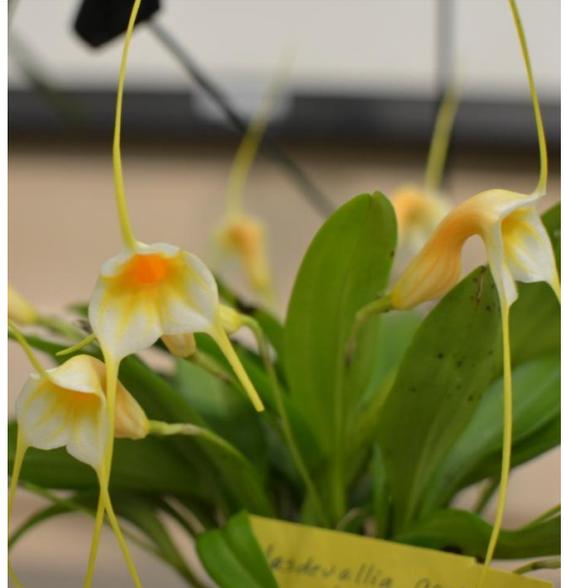
(*Ostotele Summit* x *Cyrtochilum edwardii*)
Neal Winslow



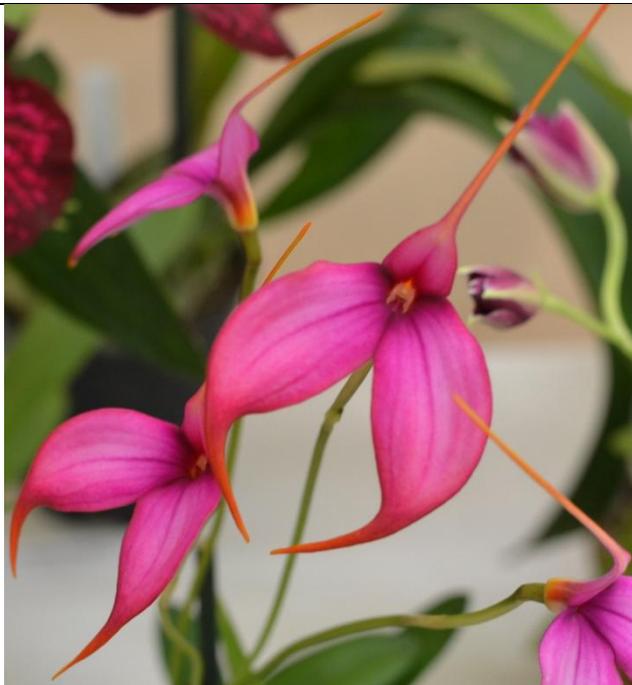
Masdevallia Peach Fuzz
Linda Tripp



Diodonopsis erinacea
Mary Gerritsen



Masdevallia constricta
Mary Gerritsen



Masdevallia Ziegler's Love 'Glowing Pink' AM/AOS
Neal Winslow



Oncidium Pacific Passage 'Peach Cobbler'
Neal Winslow



Masdevallia scabrilinguis
Mary Gerritsen



Miltoniopsis vexillaria
Linda Tripp



Miltoniopsis Lennart Karl Gottling
Neal Winslow



Miltoniopsis Morris Chestnut
Neal Winslow



Miltoniopsis phalaenopsis
Neal Winslow



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Waianae Leopard
'Ching Hua' HCC/AOS
Pierre Pujol



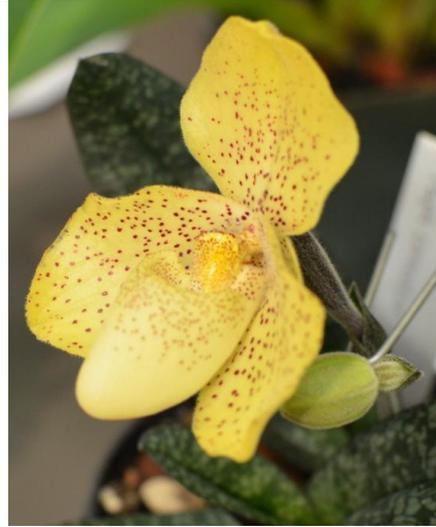
Paphiopedilum Saint Swithin
Pierre Pujol



Miltoniopsis phalaenopsis alba
Neal Winslow



Sarcochilus Royale Red 'Woodside'
Pierre Pujol



Paphiopedilum concolor
Pierre Pujol



Cattleya Superforbesii
Pierre Pujol



Rhynchostele cordata
Neal Winslow

Member News



A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO Margaret Boomer, Gloria Bygdnes, Rex Castell, Patricia Coney, Julie Delay, Judy Evans, Annie Green, Nancy Hardesty, Ken Jacobsen, Pat Kajikawa, Christine Kradjian, Pingyu Liu, Anne Merics, Steve Proschan, Sue Rose, Misae Tanihana, Susan Tong, Veyra Mercado, and Charlotte Thunen!

Thank you to Gloria Bygdnes, Chaunie Langland, Donna Horn, Judy Evans, Susan Tong, Janusz Warszawski, and Annie Green for bringing in refreshments! They are always appreciated!

Awards!

Please let me know if one of your plants has received an award, I would love to announce it here.

***Cypripedium tibeticum* 'Woodside'** received an AM of 82 point, exhibited by Pierre Pujol.

***Cymbidium Circular Quay* 'Windermere'** received an HCC/AOS of 76 points, exhibited by Carl Jukkola.

***Cymbidium insigne* 'Memoria Blair Miller' HCC/AOS** received a Silver from the Cymbidium Society of America (CSA) of 82 points, exhibited by Weegie Caughlan.

***Cymbidium Jaye Evans* 'Awesome'** received a Bronze from the CSA of 75 points, exhibited by Ken Jacobsen.

***Cymbidium Nicole's Valentine* 'Geyslerlad' HCC/AOS** received a Cultural award of 83 points from the CSA, exhibited by Weegie Caughlan.

Renewals

If you have not renewed your membership, it is not too late! Please renew online on the POS website at penorchidsoc.org/membership.html or mail your renewal to:

Janusz Warszawski
POS Membership Renewal
1227 Monte Verde Ct.
Los Altos, CA 94024

Miniature Orchids Books

Mary Gerritsen has made another bulk purchase of A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species by Ron Parsons and Mary Gerritsen. They are available as two volume sets for POS members for \$140 a set and can be signed by the authors. Please contact Mary at meg570@comcast.net.

Library

Anna Chai has donated a copy of her limited edition (personal) book My Life With Orchids to our library. She brought a copy in one time a few years ago and we all tried to get a good look at it, but were thwarted by the number of people interested and the limited amount of time. Now you have the opportunity to take it home with you for a month. Anna put this book together to inspire others to aspire to improve their orchid culture, their understanding of what makes an orchid high quality, and to document her years of orchid growing.

Anna's book includes photos of most of her AOS awarded orchids, copies of news articles about her and her orchids, and other interesting items. Most of the pages are devoted to her awarded orchids and include a photo, the award, and the description of the orchid as written by the AOS judges. If you pay close attention and think about what you are looking at, you may gain a stronger direction in your own orchid growing.

Normally you would visit our librarian to check out this book. We do not have a librarian right now since Rex Castell has retired from his years of service to the society. Therefore, Chaunie has taken charge of loaning out and keeping track of Anna's

book. Please contact her prior to the meeting if you would like to borrow the book. Call (510) 494-8850 or email chaunie.langland@earthlink.net. If needed, you will be placed on the waiting list.

Please contact Todd if you are interested in the librarian position!

Classifieds

If you have any plants or orchid related items to sell, donate, or trade, this is a great place to list them. You can include a photo if you like and an email or phone number where you can be reached. Photos will only be included on the email version of the newsletter.

6-ft Light Rail 3.5 System (L5408), All Season 400 Watt HID Light System (L5445) and 2 replacement HPS 250w bulbs

Sue Rose has a light rail, a brand new motor never opened, the light and 2 replacement bulbs. I did use them, but not new motor and new light bulbs. Best Offer.

http://www.charleysgreenhouse.com/index.cfm?page=_search&s=lights&PageNum_newsearchQuery=3&varShowPer_custom=12&varOrderby_custom=ProductId&varSorting=ASC&varColumns=3&mtype=3

Water Filter and two replacement filters

Sue Rose has a water filter that goes on a water line and two replacement filters. Best Offer Interested parties, for either item, can contact Sue at 650-209-5161. Buyers will need to pick up items in Los Altos.

Classifieds can also be placed on our Facebook page and our website.

Upcoming Events

May 3-30th Photographic Exhibition, Sacramento Fine Arts Gallery #3

330-B Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608. Talented Sacramento Orchid Society member, Rich Ashby, will have his photography "Exotic Inflorescences, A Garden of Earthly Delights, Intimate Visions of the Orchid Family, both Fantasy and Fact", featured at the Sacramento Fine Arts Gallery in May. The Gallery is open Tuesday - Saturday 11-3.

May 10th Repotting Clinic

1-3pm San Mateo Garden Center 605 Parkside Way, where we hold our meetings. See the notice on page 3.

May 10-11th Orchid Society of California Mother's Day Show and Sale.

Saturday and Sunday 10am-5pm, Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Drive, Lake Merritt, Oakland, free admission. Flyer on page 18.

May 30th-June 1st 9th Annual San Jose Orchid Exposition

Winchester Mystery House, San Jose. Friday 5:30-9:30pm \$10, Saturday 9am-6pm \$5, Sunday 10-5pm \$5. See www.realorchidgrowers.com or flyer on page 19.

May 31st Casa de las Orquideas 14th Annual Super Seedling One Day Sale.

Sat 9-4pm 170 South Nardo Ave, Solana Beach, CA 92075. Call Miki or Karl at 858-755-7572, see www.orquideas.com or email casa@orquideas.com for more information.

June 7th POS and SCVOS Bus Trip

\$39 per person, includes lunch. Depart from the light rail parking lot at the corner of Curtner and Canoas Garden in San Jose at 8:35 AM **SHARP**. We will visit Matsui Orchid Nursery, Bay Breeze Orchid Nursery, Valley Orchids and South Pacific Orchids. Return around 4:30 PM. To sign up e-mail Chaunie Langland at chaunie.langland@earthlink.net, or send her your check, (made out to Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society) at 878 Cashew Way, Fremont 94536, or call her at (510) 494-8850 or sign up at the April or May meetings.

June 14th 12th Orchid Digest Speakers' Day

Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA 12:30pm-8pm in the Ahmanson Classroom. Go to www.orchiddigest.org for tickets and more information.

July 11-13th Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House

Friday & Saturday 8am-5pm, Sunday 9am-4pm, 1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara CA 93111, for more information call 800-553-3387 or email sboe@sborchid.com.

August 2-3rd Orchids in the Park

New, earlier date! This show has been held in September in the past. Save the date!

Mother's Day Weekend Orchid Show & Sale 2014

Orchid Displays

Orchids for Sale

Culture Sessions

Raffles

FREE Admission



Saturday
May 10
10AM - 5PM

Sunday
May 11
10AM - 5PM

Lakeside Park Garden Center - 666 Bellevue Avenue - Oakland CA 94610
Next to The Gardens at Lake Merril Botanical Garden in Lakeside Park

Presented By **ORCHID SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA.ORG**

This Card Valid For
3 FREE Raffle Tickets

Presented by Real Orchid Growers

SAN JOSE
ORCHID EXPOSITION
2014



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Join us at the
WINCHESTER
MYSTERY HOUSE®
525 S. Winchester Blvd., San Jose, CA 95128

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
| MAY 30 | MAY 31 | JUNE 1 |
| 5:30PM-9:30PM | 9:00AM-6:00PM | 10:00AM-5:00PM |

PREVIEW NIGHT – FRIDAY
\$5.00 ADMISSION SAT & SUN
\$10.00 ADMISSION FRIDAY PREVIEW NIGHT

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| | Chaunie Langland | 510-494-8850 | chaunie.langland@earthlink.net |

Chairpersons

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| AOS Representative | Chaunie Langland | 510-494-8850 |
| Librarian | Open | |
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P.O.Box 6894
San Mateo, CA 94403-6894

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

Remember, our meeting is May 23rd!

*Peninsula Orchid Society
The Sheath
Dan Williamson, Editor
727 Clark Way
Palo Alto CA 94304*
