



# *The Sheath*

## June General Meeting

Date: June 24, 2016

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

Speaker this Month: **Steve Beckendorf**

Title: **"Why are there so Many Orchids?"**

Steve started growing orchids in the early 1980s and quickly became fascinated by Odontoglossums and their close relatives because of their beauty and variety. They had a glamorous past as the most sought after plants in the orchid frenzy that gripped Europe in the 19th century. In addition, excellent hybrids were available from growers and hybridizers on the West Coast.

He soon realized that few of the species in this group were readily available and began collecting them for propagation and use in hybridizing. His attempt to find unusual or lost species has led to many trips to the cloud forests of Mexico & South America.

Steve currently grows about 50 Odontoglossum species and another 30-40 of their relatives, along with lots of Odont hybrids and a smattering of other cool growing genera. He is currently the President of the Odontoglossum Alliance.

He is passionately involved in orchid conservation and is a member of the AOS Conservation Committee and a director of the Orchid Conservation Alliance (OCA).

**Skill Session at 7:00PM**  
Janusz will have a Q&A session helpful to an Orchid Beginner

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

Speaker:  
Steve Beckendorf  
Title: "Why are there so Many Orchids?"

Opportunity Table by: Steve Beckendorf

As a geneticist and developmental biologist, Steve has worked on the mechanisms that define tissues and organs in early embryos. He is Professor Emeritus of Molecular and Cell Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. Because of this background, Steve has been interested in several of the scientific aspects of orchids, including molecular taxonomy and deceptive pollination strategies.

Finally, Steve is a Judge in the Pacific Central Judging Region. He has numerous AOS

### **Skill Session: Open discussion with the Orchid Doctor**

**Ask an Expert:** 7:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. in the main meeting room. You have questions,

### **May Speakers: “Good Growing Forum”**

Thank You to Ken Jacobsen, Tom Mudge and Pierre Pujol for their Open, Topical Discussion and interesting interaction.

I hope you were able to find out the secret to their successful growing, and therefore, to improve on your own.



## **President’s Corner**



**POS Annual Auction is on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Circle the mark you have already made on your calendars!**

### **Auction Tips**

**Pest free is key.** Summer is peak season for orchid pests, so do yourself two favors by taking steps to eliminate them from your collection. It will help your orchids grow stronger, and bloom better, and it will avoid having an

infested plant be turned away at the auction. Observation, isolation, and appropriate treatment will allow you to spot any infestations early, prevent them from spreading, and control them before they can cause bigger problems.

**Act now. There are only 85 days left between our June meeting and the auction.** Decide early which orchids you will be auctioning off. Take photos when they bloom. Download and start filling out your auction list and auction tags, or pick up both forms at the June, July or August meetings.

**Keep using the Show & Tell Table at each meeting for free advertising.** Most of the auction bidders come to our monthly meetings. If you plan to divide your blooming orchid prior to the auction, just write, “**AUCTION**” on the show & tell label and the person describing it will emphasize this to the audience.

### **Help Still Wanted**

It has been pointed out to me that my request for volunteers has been too general, so now I will get more specific. Each member who is not currently volunteering for something must pick a number. If I can guess the answer to a math problem using your number, you are required to volunteer for one of our open positions. So go ahead:

- Choose any whole number (no fractions or decimals).
- Double it.
- Add 9.
- Subtract 3.
- Divide by 2.
- Subtract your original number.

Have you done the math? Good! I will guess your answer at the June meeting, and if I am correct, we look forward to you volunteering for one of the opportunities listed below.

**Sheath Editor:** A brief monthly cutting and pasting tour that helps to keep your fellow members in the loop. Mike Rector is continually blushing from the effusive praise he receives for helping out on an interim basis, imagine the appreciation you will receive when you take over this important job longer term.

**Food Coordinator:** This job is already being done every month. All we need is to attach the official title to one of our wonderful helpers. Why not take the credit for what you are doing already? Making coffee, putting out cups, cleaning up later.

See the president or a board member at the March meeting to find out more or to volunteer for any of these positions.

**Beginners/New Members Forum and Ask an Expert:** Arrive early to get all of your orchid related questions answered. Both start at 7:00 p.m. in the main meeting room.

**Contribute to one table, get a chance to win at another table:**

Remember, bringing food for the snack table entitles you to a free strip of raffle tickets, but that is no longer the only way to get a chance to win without opening your wallet. We are reviving the tradition of rewarding those bringing in plants for the show and tell table. If you bring in a plant to show, you may write your name on a slip of paper and put it in a basket on the show and tell table. One plant will be selected from the raffle table, and one of the contributors to the show and tell table will win that plant. If you bring both food and a show and tell plant, you might need a bigger car to haul all your winnings home!

Remember, all those bringing in snacks are entitled to a free strip of raffle tickets. This month's raffle table looks very desirable, with Cattleyas available nowhere else. So bring a snack and boost your chances of winning big!

## Member News

### **A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY:**

Anne Abramson, Ellis Bigelow, Rene Biggs, Ginger Creevy, Mike Drilling, Joe Enos, Hoda Hassan, Sung H. Lee, Olga Ostrovsky, Ron Parsons, Jill Rodder, Paul Simon, and Horst Wend.

We wish you all the best and good growing.

### **Refreshments:**

Thank you to all that brought treats. Thank you very much! Anyone willing to take on the fun and helpful job of setting up the food table every month, perhaps job share with others on a month to month basis? Just send in your name and when you would like to do the setup.

### **Membership:**

Membership Renewals:

Annual membership dues are now past due. They can be paid by check or cash at our monthly meetings, on the website <http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html> using Paypal, or mailed to the address provided in the 2016 Membership Renewal form, attached to this Newsletter. There are no changes to the fee scheduled for 2016. Please update your contact information, especially email addresses. (See attached form)



### **Orchid Supplies!**

#### **Supplies for sale:**

See Mike Drilling for information on “Purely Organic” fertilizer. Mike has repackaged the larger bags into smaller, easier to use bags.

## The POS Board of Directors

|                          |   |                                |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| President:               | Tom Mudge   | tjmudge@yahoo.com              |
| Vice President:          | Neal Windslow   | nwinslow4@comcast.net          |
| Recording Secretary:     | George Spangler   | georges@iaspanglers.net        |
| Corresponding Secretary: | Judy Evans  | judyclint@aol.com              |
| Membership:              | Janusz Warszawski   | janwar@sbcglobal.net           |
| Treasurer:               | Sharon Langan   | slangan3@att.net               |
| Ways & Means:            | Roey Shaviv   | shaviv@sbcglobal.net           |
| Director at Large:       | Susan Tong  | tongsusan2006@yahoo.com        |
| Director at Large:       | Eric Levenson   | eric_levenson@pacbell.net      |
| Past President:          | Mike Drilling   | mdrilling@pacbell.net          |
| AOS Representative:      | Chaunie Langland  | chaunie.langland@earthlink.net |
| Refreshments:            | (Your Name Here)  |                                |
| Sheath Editor: (temp)    | Mike Rector   | mrector@verizon.net            |
| Web Editor:              | Joseph Kautz  | jjbirder@yahoo.com             |
| Our Mailing Address:     | PO Box 6894<br>San Mateo, CA 94403-6894                       |                                |
| Website:                 | <a href="http://penorchidsoc.org">http://penorchidsoc.org</a> |                                |
| Facebook:                | Peninsula Orchid Society of San Mateo                         |                                |

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**Error last newsletter: Jeff Trimble spent a lot of time helping set up and delivering orchids for the Filoli Flower Show. Jeff's name was inadvertently left off the Thank You's!**

### **Note from the Flower Show Chair, Filoli:**

A big Thank You!! to all of you for the spectacular Orchid Exhibit you brought to our Filoli Flower Show this year. Each and every plant was outstanding and I know how much effort you put into the design, installation and full time staffing of your outstanding exhibit.

Of course we hope you'll be back in 2017.

Judy Bloom



**Patrick Hoe**



Patrick was an active member of Peninsula Orchid Society for many years. He was co-chair, with his wife Susan Tong, of hospitality at the monthly meetings for several years as well as one of the anchors of the plant hotel at our annual show. Patrick loved to go on the annual greenhouse bus tour. He and Susan helped Eric and I put up our first greenhouse kit, then he put a greenhouse up for Susan (with a little help from the rest of us).

He retired a couple of years ago and became interested in raising chickens for eggs, zebra finches, canaries, and

had several fish tanks. His first grandchild was born the week before he passed away.



**Our condolences to Susan and their sons Warren and Nick.**

**Noble Emery of Napa** passed away on a Tuesday at home with family at his side. Noble has been in declining health and decided on his own terms that enough was enough and that he was "ready to leave".



For the past 40 years, Noble has been a pillar in many of the Bay Area Orchid Societies, as an active member and dedicated volunteer at orchid-related events. His presence will be missed.

A Napa resident Noble Emery is 96 now, he will never forget the thrill of falling in love with orchids.

Editor's Note: I remember Noble always taking care of the plant hotel at the POE. He was kind, patient and willing to lend a hand. He was fun to work with...

2016 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 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 shared.**

**E-mail:** (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:

- Individual \$22.00
- Senior (55 and over) \$16.00
- Payments can be made by Paypal on POS website [penorchidsoc.org/membership.html](http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html)
- Additional Member same household \$10.00
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Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Everyone is encouraged to renew before the end of February each year.

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Membership Chair's area

## Announcements and Upcoming Events



Malihini has a new meeting place, be sure to check it out!

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To San Mateo Garden Club Clubs,

**All the clubs utilizing the San Mateo Garden Center are invited to participate in our Open House on Sep 10, 2016:**

"San Mateo Garden Center Fall Extravaganza"  
(Plant sale and demonstrations)  
San Mateo Garden Center  
605 Parkside Way, San Mateo  
September 10, 2016  
10:00am - 4:00pm

Participation includes staffing 1 or 2 tables in the Redwood (main) Room and possibly putting on a demonstration (7 slots - 45 min) in the Gazebo area. Aim is to publicize Garden Center as a community resource. Club activities at this event include: plant sales (Note: Garden shop will also have sale), recruitment, and demonstrations.

Clubs are expected to publicize event (Note: Garden center will also publicize).

No charge to clubs or attendees and no plan for SMGC provided free food .

Thank you for your support.

Gerry Fields  
SMGC Board



# Orchids in the Park

San Francisco Orchid Society's Summer Show & Sale  
July 23 & 24, 2016 10 am - 5 pm

San Francisco County Fair Building  
(Hall of Flowers) 9th Ave. & Lincoln Way  
Golden Gate Park - San Francisco

Demonstrations/Raffle  
Admission: \$5, Seniors \$4, under 16 free.  
[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

Orchids in the Park, the San Francisco Orchid Society's summer show and sale, is coming on July 23-24. There will be a dozen or more vendors from around the country, and a large display area in the center of the show. Please help the SFOS get the word out by "liking" the page on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/San-Francisco-Orchid-Society-150623501678349/>

and be sure to invite all your friends at the Facebook OITP page

<https://www.facebook.com/events/722045011271699/>

And the SFOS would like you to volunteer! There are a range of volunteer positions at the show you can fill to match your skills and physical abilities. You can sign up online with our event at Volunteer Spot (<http://vols.pt/9nDE34>).

As a thank-you, you will receive a "Show Bucks" coupon, which can be used as a \$5 credit towards buying plants at the show.

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Thank you!

Dave Hermeyer

President

San Francisco Orchid Society

## AOS Speakers Day

July 30, 2016: California Sierra Nevada Speaker's Day. Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM Odd Fellows Hall 1831 Howe Ave (at Alta Arden) Sacramento, CA 95825 Tickets in advance are available from Susan Wedegaertner [sgwede@gmail.com](mailto:sgwede@gmail.com)) for \$10 for affiliated societies or AOS members, at the door it's \$30.

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July 8-10, 2016: 36th Annual Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Summer Open House. Friday & Saturday 8 AM to 5PM. Sunday 9 AM to 4 PM Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, 1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 Celebrating the Exotic and Fragrant Beauties of Summer: The large flowered Cattleyas (Laelias) of Brazil, the Stanhopeas and Encyclias of Central and South America, and many other genera. Frequent potting and mounting demonstrations. And of course, we will have the \$7.50 specials of seedlings, bare-roots, and Wayne's special annual pick of sprouted Cymbidium back bulbs: select and awarded, species and hybrids, standard and miniatures.

Questions? Call us at (800) 553-3387, e-mail us at [sboe@sborchid.com](mailto:sboe@sborchid.com) or visit <http://www.sborchid.com/> Please note: in 2016 there will again be no Santa Barbara Orchid Fair at Earl Warren Show Grounds.

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**American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton**

Tue, Jun 14, 2016 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT *Everyone is invited*

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education, for a Q&A session on how to grow and care for your orchids. If you have a question, please submit your questions by June 12th to [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net).

**Register now using this link:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6688975018868678915>.

**North American Orchid Conservation**

Tue, Jun 21, 2016 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT *Members only are invited*

Join Past AOS President and Education Chair Sandra Svoboda as she talks about the endemic orchids of North American and the conservation efforts and organizations that exist to ensure that our North American native orchids survive.

**Register now using this link:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/700915946744837891>

**Docents Needed at the Conservatory of Flowers**

**Docents Needed  
at the  
Conservatory of Flowers**



Comprehensive training program prepares new volunteers to lead tours for adults or children. The Conservatory welcomes adult volunteers of all experience levels.

**Jungle Guides** introduce elementary school students to the wonders of the rainforest.

**Docents** educate adult visitors about the Conservatory's fascinating collection of tropical plants and San Francisco's stunning historic greenhouse.



**Training Program**

The training program includes gallery tours, lectures, and one-on-one sessions with mentors. Training will be held Thursdays from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. from July 14th through August 25th.

**Shared Commitment**

Just like the Conservatory's plants, the volunteer program relies on regular watering and feeding. That's why we ask all volunteers to commit to two shifts per month for at least one year. In return, the Conservatory offers educational and social opportunities, free passes and discounts, and an engaging, flexible environment.



**To register for the training, contact:**

Erika Frank, Director of Volunteers & Education  
(415) 637-4326 or [efrank@sfcof.org](mailto:efrank@sfcof.org)  
[ConservatoryOfflowers.org](http://ConservatoryOfflowers.org)

Docents educate adult visitors about the Conservatory's fascinating collection of tropical plants and San Francisco's stunning historic greenhouse. Jungle Guides introduce elementary school students to the wonders of the rainforest. The comprehensive training program prepares new volunteers to lead tours for adults or children. The Conservatory welcomes volunteers of all experience levels. The training program includes gallery tours, lectures, and one-on-one sessions with mentors. The training will be held Thursdays from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. from July 14th through August 25th. For more information, contact Erika Frank at (415) 637-4326 or [efrank@sfcof.org](mailto:efrank@sfcof.org).

Pictures from the April Meeting - Show and Tell Table













**Joseph Kautz's own Hybrid Paph.**



Did you pick up your trophy?

Thank You Super as Usual!

Thank you to Chaunie Langland  
and Abraham Wang for the  
great pictures

