



# The Sheath

## General Meeting

July 28, 2017

Time: Doors open at 6:45PM

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 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

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

Doors are open at 6:45

7:00 Skill Session: Bill Weaver will demonstrate "How to Repot Cattleyas"

Meeting plus Show and Tell Table at 7:30pm followed by:

Speaker: Marni Turkel

Opportunity Table by Marni Turkel

### **Speaker: Marni Turkel "Show Me The Plant"**



How many of us have been disappointed when we finally bloom that plant we bought because the picture of the flower was so beautiful? It turned out to be a very small flower on a very long spike on an ungainly plant.

"Show Me the Plant" is a presentation that uses slides of blooming specimen plants as well as close-ups to consider the whole plant for a sense of proportion and relationship and not the flower in isolation. Marni will be talking about many of her favorite plants, and will cover some basic information as well as specific needs for individual plants, and strategies for growing specimen plants. This is a chance to see the best of her collection and learn how she grows it.

**Marni Turkel** (pronounced tur KELL) is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and has been growing orchids since 1980. She grows in four greenhouses in Santa Rosa with approximately 1250 sq ft of growing space. Her main interest is in miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into the collection as well. Marni has been a contributor to Orchids magazine with her series called 'Well Worth the Space' and 'Give It a Rest'. Her articles have been translated into Dutch, German, Portuguese and Swedish for international publication. Photographs of her plants have been feature in articles noted orchid publications including Orchids Magazine, Orchid Digest, Richardiana, The Orchid Review, and The Australian Orchid Review. For the last few years she has been sharing her photographs and knowledge on [OrchidsForum.com](http://OrchidsForum.com).

Starting in 2009, Marni expanded her work with orchids to include propagation of orchids from seed and has set up a flasking lab of her own to take the process from start to finish and sell flasks of many of the orchids species in her collection. After working for over 43 years as a potter, she has retired from ceramics to pursue orchids full-time.

## Member News



*A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Fe L. Araullo, Anna Chai, Paul Chim, Heidi Crespin, Trudy Hadler, Melvin Jones, Valerie Jones, Joseph Kautz, Lisa Pace, Jung Hee Ra, Deadra St. Clair, Nancy Wilson, Neal Winslow*

### **Refreshments:**

Thanks in advance to all those planning to bring in refreshments for the July meeting – we really appreciate your contributions! Be sure to pick up a free raffle ticket from Eric Levenson. Also, we're still looking for a volunteer to be in charge of the refreshments.

### **Membership Renewal:**

For those who have not yet renewed their membership, this is the last Newsletter we will be able to send you. If you forgot, and still want to renew, please send your 2017 dues as shown on the attached form. Otherwise we'll have to, reluctantly, remove your name from the Membership/Newsletter list as of August 1, 2017.

### **Help Wanted!!**

We are looking for a Correspondence Secretary, as well as a member to be in charge of Refreshments.

### **POS Now On Twitter and Instagram**

Thanks to member Isis Trenchard, we now have accounts on Instagram and Twitter.

Our instagram account can be found here: <https://www.instagram.com/peninsulaorchidsociety/>

And our twitter account at: <https://twitter.com/peninsulaorchid>

If you're interested in photography and want to help the club as well, you can send your orchid pictures to her at: Isis Trenchard <[ijtrenchard@gmail.com](mailto:ijtrenchard@gmail.com)>, or at [peninsulaorchid@gmail.com](mailto:peninsulaorchid@gmail.com) and she will see they get onto our page.

### **The President's Corner**

It is getting closer to our auction and I have been dividing up some of my better plants to make sale items for it. Including the rhys. biconiensis that I received an AM/AOS on. Also, some very good Cymbidiums ,and a seedling Paph.Tigrinum. So don't be shy when you bid as these will be better than average plants.

*Jeff*

**More On The Auction From Tom Mudge****Donating plants to the POS Auction**

This is *Dendrobium dearei*, an uncommon and desirable species from the Philippines. It has large, long lasting flowers, and is easy to grow. Everyone who sees it in bloom wants it; so why am I donating a division of it to the POS auction instead of just selling it? Because without the POS, I would not have this plant.

I never would have met Kreg Martin, this orchid's original owner, or heard about his open house sale except through communications from the POS and its members. Think about all the orchids you have that came from the monthly opportunity table, our auction, vendor sales and member sales at our monthly meetings or annual show, member open houses, or just the generosity of other members. All of our collections would be poorer without the POS.

To help ensure that the POS stays healthy and vibrant in the future, I will be donating a division of this and several other choice orchids to this year's auction. I hope all of you will try to do the same.

**Tom Gave Us a Humorous Demo At The Last Meeting:**



**Not too Late To Divide Your Plants**

Tom showed us the divisions he made from his *Stenia pallida*. A flowering division for the “show and tell” table, one to sell at the auction, one to donate for the auction, and one to give away.

Also, in his hand he has a Keiki he plucked from one of his unusual dendrobiums at “show and tell.” As he explained, he can now pot it up for the auction!

**And That’s How It’s Done**



## **Editor's Notes**

With the recent heat wave, I thought many of us would find this AOS article by Thomas Mirenda\* useful.

**HEAT** With temperatures often rising into the 90s, many orchid plants are stressed. Large and tender new growths generated this past spring are maturing and hardening off but are still susceptible to sunburn, heat stress and fungal infections. Therefore, the bulk of our activities this month are related to minimizing the effects of heat on our plants.

**READ ABOUT PLANTS** Many orchids, particularly those from seasonally dry forests, such as encyclias, myrmecophilas and brassavolas, seem to do well in the summer heat. Even the many deciduous Dendrobium species and hybrids that require cool winter temperatures are growing rampantly now. Their adaptations of extreme succulence and large pseudobulbs give them the ability to withstand heat and dryness better than orchids from more seasonally uniform habitats like montane tropical rainforests, such as miltonias, many paphiopedilums, pleurothallids and even phalaenopsis. These orchids tend to have smaller pseudobulbs, or none, and have less succulent foliage. For these plants, shade and hydration during the summer heat is a real necessity.

**COOLING PLANS** Basically, there are three strategies for cooling off your plants: shading, misting and air flow. All of these strategies either separately or combined can ease the stresses of summer heat on orchids significantly. But taken to excess, these heat defenses can do more harm than good.

**Shading:** Most of our orchids benefit from some shading during the hottest months, but many also need bright light to grow strongly and store enough nutrients to bloom once their new growths have matured. Cattleyas, cymbidiums, standard dendrobiums and vandas will languish with weak and spindly new growths if kept constantly in deep shade. For such plants, misting and air flow are better strategies for cooling. For phalaenopsis and most pleurothallids, deeper shade gives better results.

**Misting:** Many high-light orchids, notably vandas and cymbidiums, benefit from a fine cooling mist at the height of the day's temperatures. Feel your orchid's leaves on a hot day. If they are hot to the touch, they have shut down and are in danger of burning. Just a quick wetting down with a light mist is often enough to cool the leaves down. Cymbidiums in particular seem to grow better when cooled in this way. Automatic misting systems are available for both outdoor and greenhouse growers. Still, beware of wetting down leaves in full sun, as the water can overheat or act like a lens. This usually happens only under glass or on window sills where the air flow is poor. The other danger with misting is waterlogging your plants. Don't mist so much that your plants never dry between waterings. Also, remember that water sitting in the new growths of your phalaenopsis plants at night is a sure recipe for the dreaded crown rot.

**Air Flow** Perhaps the most important and overlooked aspect of cooling is air movement. A beam of light hitting a thermometer will make it register much higher than the actual ambient temperature. The same is true of leaves. If light hits the same portion of a leaf on a hot day with no breeze to cool it, it will overheat and burn quickly. But if a light moist breeze is caressing your plants, it will dissipate this heat. This can also be done to excess, for example, if the air movement is too strong, it can prevent plants from taking in carbon dioxide, or cause desiccation.

**MICROCLIMATES** Put maximum/minimum thermometers and monitor the light and air flow in various spots of your growing areas. You'll be surprised at how much they can vary. You might find, for example, that the sunny south side of your greenhouse near the exhaust fan is a prime spot for dendrobiums. Or the cool, breezy spot under the beech tree is ideal for the miltoniopsis. There is a copper beech tree near our facility here in Washington, DC., where legend has it that Abraham Lincoln used to like to sit and write because it was 10 degrees cooler under that tree than anywhere else in the infamously torrid DC summer. There may be spots like that in your own back yard. Seek them out. Those are great spots to summer your orchids.

**FERTILIZING** Even though your plants have been growing so well these last few months, beware of fertilizing on hot days. When plants overheat, they shut down metabolism and basically stop growing. If their medium and roots are imbued with plentiful, but unused, fertilizer, it can sour your mix and burn your roots. Take the time to leach your plants of excess fertilizer salts, and use plant foods sparingly (if at all) during excessively hot weather.

*(\*Thomas Mirenda is the orchid collection specialist at the Smithsonian Institution and an AOS judge. Article reprinted here with permission of the AOS).*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### The POS Board of Directors

President:	Jeff Trimble	Trimble@netzero.net
Vice President:	Mike Rector	mrector@verizon.net
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Corresponding Secretary:	Michael Rector	mrector@verizon.net
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Director at Large:	Abraham Wang	
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Our Mailing Address:	PO Box 6894 San Mateo, CA 94403-6894	
Website:	<a href="http://penorchidsoc.org">http://penorchidsoc.org</a>	
Facebook:	Peninsula Orchid Society of San Mateo	chaunie.langland@earthlink.net
Twitter/Instagram	Isis Trenchard	ijtrenchard@gmail.com

Interested in a specific topic or speaker or skill session?  
 POS members are welcome to make suggestions for speakers or topics for our meetings, and also for our skill sessions before the meetings. Please send your suggestions to Mike Rector at [mrector@verizon.net](mailto:mrector@verizon.net)

Membership renewals

Annual membership fees are due in January; If you haven't renewed yet, they can be paid by check or cash at the meeting, or on the website using Paypal at: <http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html>. The membership form is below.

**2017 Peninsula Orchid Society**

**Membership Application or Renewal**

Mail to: Janusz Warszawski – POS 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       Additional Member same household \$10.00
- Senior (55 and over) \$16.00       Additional Member same household \$10.00
- Payments can be made by Paypal on POS website [penorchidsoc.org/membership.html](http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html)

Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. Everyone is encouraged to renew before the end of February each year.

## **Upcoming Events:**

**San Francisco Orchid Society 2017 Orchids in the Park Summer Show & Sale July 22 & 23, 2017**

*Saturday And Sunday From 10:00 Am - 5:00 Pm at The Hall Of Flowers, County Fair Building In Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue At Lincoln Way, San Francisco, California*

**You can be a part of our show by volunteering at:**

**<http://signup.com/go/3SZoBA>**

**Tickets & information:**

**GENERAL: \$5**

**SENIORS (65+): \$4**

**for more information on the show and transportation options:**

**<http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/orchid-events/orchids-in-the-park>**



**POS Auction is on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**World Orchid Conference, November 8-12<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Guayaquil Convention Center, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Info at [info@woc22.com](mailto:info@woc22.com)

**POS show and sale is January 27, 2018**



**American Orchid Society**  
*Education. Conservation. Research.*

**UPCOMING WEBINARS**

**Wednesday, Jul 19, 2017 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT** Join Dennis Whigham, Senior Botanist of the North American Orchid Conservation Center, division of the Smithsonian Institution as he discusses the coalition of associations dedicated to preserving native species. Members only. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6929416230293772035>

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

**Tuesday, August 8, 2017 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT** *Everyone invited*

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions [tostillisch@cox.net](mailto:tostillisch@cox.net) by Sunday, August 6th.

**Register now using this link:**

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7707356990214464771>

**Note:** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

**WHAT ARE WEBINARS?** Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

**WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE?** The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.