

# THE SHEATH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY



**FRIDAY, MAY 26**

**"COOL TOLERANT ORCHIDS"**

**Phragmipedium Noirmont 'Tae Ok' AM/AOS**  
grown by Susan Rose

**Our speaker this month, Dennis Olivas, discusses orchids that you can try growing indoors or outdoors, in cool environments.**

# MEMBER NEWS

## **Orchid Talk:**

Our speaker this month, Dennis Olivas, will speak to us in-person about cool-tolerant orchids. The meeting will take place May 26, at 7 pm, in the San Mateo Garden Center. The doors open at 6:30 pm.

## **Birthdays:**

Wishing a very happy birthday this month to Rex Castell, Patricia Coney, Stuart Dalton, Annie Green, Ken Jacobsen, Christian Kradjian, Steve Proschan, Sue Rose, A'na Satara, James Shao, Leena Wang, Susan Tong, and Lily Yan!



## **Show and Tell:**

If you plan to attend via Zoom and want to share pictures of your orchids at the meeting, please send up to 4 photos to Mark Khoo (mklkhoo@gmail.com) and be prepared to share. You may also prepare a slide presentation or perhaps stage a display, photograph it and talk about your various plants.

## **Orchiata Bark and Other Media?**

Mitch Schnieder (the new co-owner of New World Orchids) is selling 35 L bags of Orchiata for \$40 (plus tax). It is available in Precision (1/8" 4-6 mm), Classic (3/8" 6-9 mm) Power, (1/2" 9-12 mm) Power Plus, (3/4" 12-18 mm), and Super (1" 18-25 mm).

He is also offering shredded tree fern (Coakley), which was the almost exclusive growing media of orchids in the 18th and 19th century until it went almost extinct in the wild. However, it is harvested ethically and sustainably and is now offered to the domestic US market. Mitchell will be selling it for \$30 per 8 L bag and \$110 per 40 L bag, plus tax.

Mitch is also offering sphagnum moss. The current rate is \$12 per hundred grams. Mitch also can provide virus testing strips to test for all the commonly known orchid viruses for \$8/testing kit.

If you are interested, please contact Mitch at Mitchell.E.Schneider@gmail.com

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

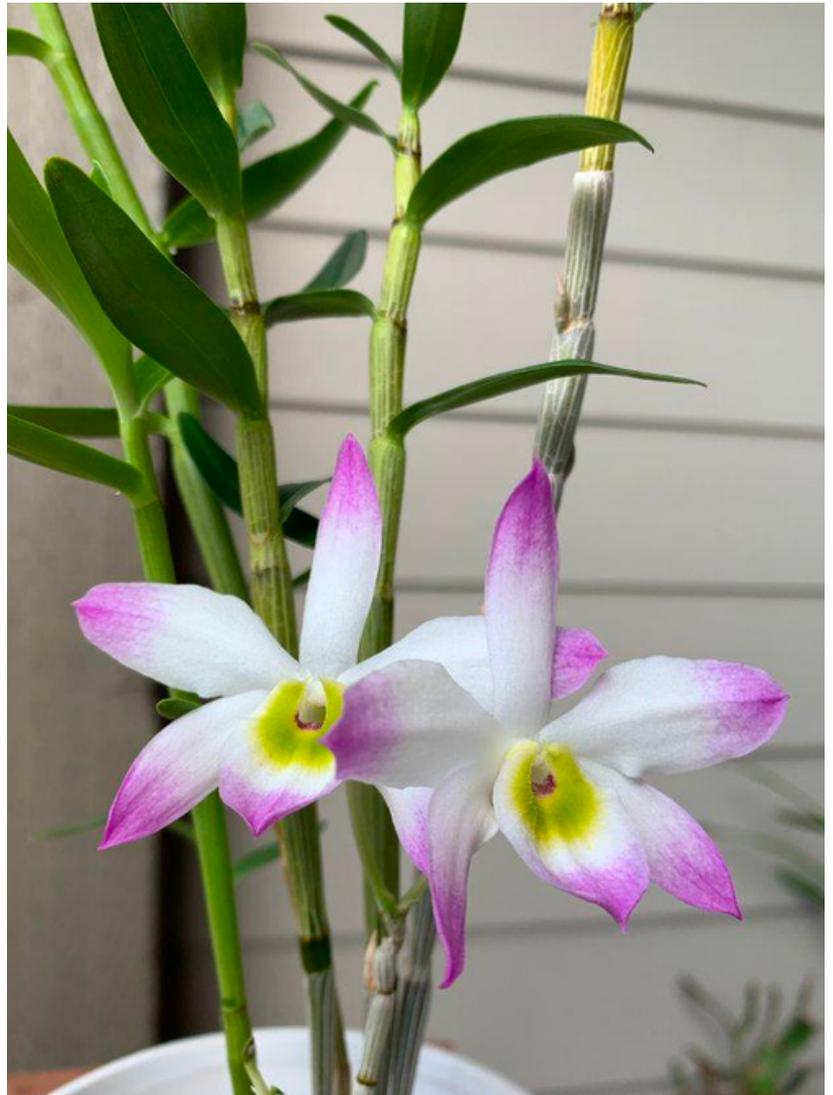
DAN WILLIAMSON

The *Dendrobium vietnamese* to the right is a new bloom for me. I bought the plant at the Pacific Orchid Exposition a year ago in February 2022, not really knowing what I was getting. But the plant looked like something I might be able to grow and it was new to me. When I got home, I looked online for any cultural information I could find about it. Which was basically nothing. Even the Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia ([www.orchidspecies.com](http://www.orchidspecies.com)) only had the bare minimum of information about the plant: medium light. OK. I put it on my medium light shelf, potted it in densely packed sphagnum moss and watered it when it was dry. I decided not to give it a dry rest, mostly because so many of the talks I've heard on growing Dendrobiums say not to bother with dry rests. However, I did hold back fertilizer when it wasn't in active growth, because those same talks suggest holding off fertilizer when Dendrobiums aren't in active growth.

It looks like this species blooms on the leafless canes from the prior year.

If that is the case, next year should be spectacular, since the largest cane has many potential inflorescences that look ready to go. Here's hoping for a beautiful flowering next year.

All of this is to demonstrate how I go about learning about growing a plant that is new to me. Check your internet sources, attend talks on growing plants, and talk to other growers in the society, and take inspiration from other similar plants. Take a chance with something new, perhaps from the opportunity table at the next meeting, or from a vendor at a show, and you might love what you end up with.



*Dendrobium vietnamese* (Dan Williamson)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## May 20 - AOS Pacific Central Judging Center Judging at Filoli

At 86 Cañada Road Woodside, CA 94062. Plant entry: 9:00 AM Judging: 9:30 AM.

## May 26 - Peninsula Orchid Society Meeting

Starting at 7 pm in the San Mateo Garden Center, doors and Zoom will open at 6:30 pm. Our speaker is Dennis Olivas, who will also be providing plants for our opportunity table. He will talk about cool-growing orchids.



Cattleya Jungle Gem (Dan Williamson)

## 2023 Board of Directors

President - Dan Williamson

Vice President - Leena Wang

Recording Secretary - Dan Williamson

Treasurer - Steve Proschan

Director of Membership - Olga Ostrovsky

Director of Ways and Means - Mark Khoo

Director at Large - Viktoria Kolotovska

Director at Large - Mary Bui-Pham

Director at Large - Mitch Schneider

Newsletter Editor - Leena Wang

Do you have something you would like to include in the next newsletter?

Send an email to [penorchidsoc@yahoo.com](mailto:penorchidsoc@yahoo.com)!

## Meeting Agenda

6:30 PM - Zoom/SMGC opens

7:00 PM - Dennis Olivas

8:00 PM - Announcements

8:10 PM - Show and Tell

No skill session this meeting!

Opportunity Table - Dennis Olivas

## Reminder

Our general meetings are the fourth Friday of every month, except for December when it's the third Friday.

If you have not renewed your membership for 2023, please send in this form to join or online at our website: <http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html>

2023 Peninsula Orchid Society  
Membership Application or Renewal

Write checks payable to: POS

Mail to: Steve Proschan – POS Membership  
326 El Paseo, Millbrae CA 94030

*(Membership chairperson for 2023 is Olga Ostrovsky - checks are being mailed directly to the treasurer)*

Member Information (Please Print):

Name(s) (1) \_\_\_\_\_ BirthMonth \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ BirthMonth \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ZipCode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note: We need your current e-mail address to send you *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 except in an annual directory sent only to current POS members.**

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

Type of Membership:

- Individual \$20.00                       Household membership additional \$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 re-new before the end of January each year.

Membership Chair's area

Date paid \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. and amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_ Cash Amount \_\_\_\_\_

# APRIL SHOW AND TELL



Clockwise from top left: *Angraecum* White Emblem (Janett Hawley), *Laeliocattleya* Spring Fires "Lenette #3" x *Potinara* Telling Lies "SVO Best" (Leena Wang), and *Laelia* Autoceps (Janett Hawley).



Clockwise from top left: *Vanda coerulescens* x *Holcoglossum subulifolium* and *Coelogyne Memoria Wilhelm Micholitz*, grown by Janett Hawley. *Cymbidium* 'Tower of Fire' x 'Valley Splash' and *Pleurothallis condorensis*, grown by Mariko Nagashima.



Clockwise from top left: *Cymbidium* Golden Valley 'Cinnabar' AM//AOS (Tower of Fire X Valley Splash) and *Cymbidium* Jack Halpern 'Jean's Treasure' (Redondo Sunset x Galette), grown by Weegie Caughlan. *Sophrolaeliocattleya* Kagaribi Dawn 'Red Star' x *Potinara* Star Fire 'Rockin' Red' and *Dialaeliocattleya* Ann's Snowflake 'SVO' x *Laeliocattleya* Hsinying Skies 'Ching Hua', grown by David Kurzrock.



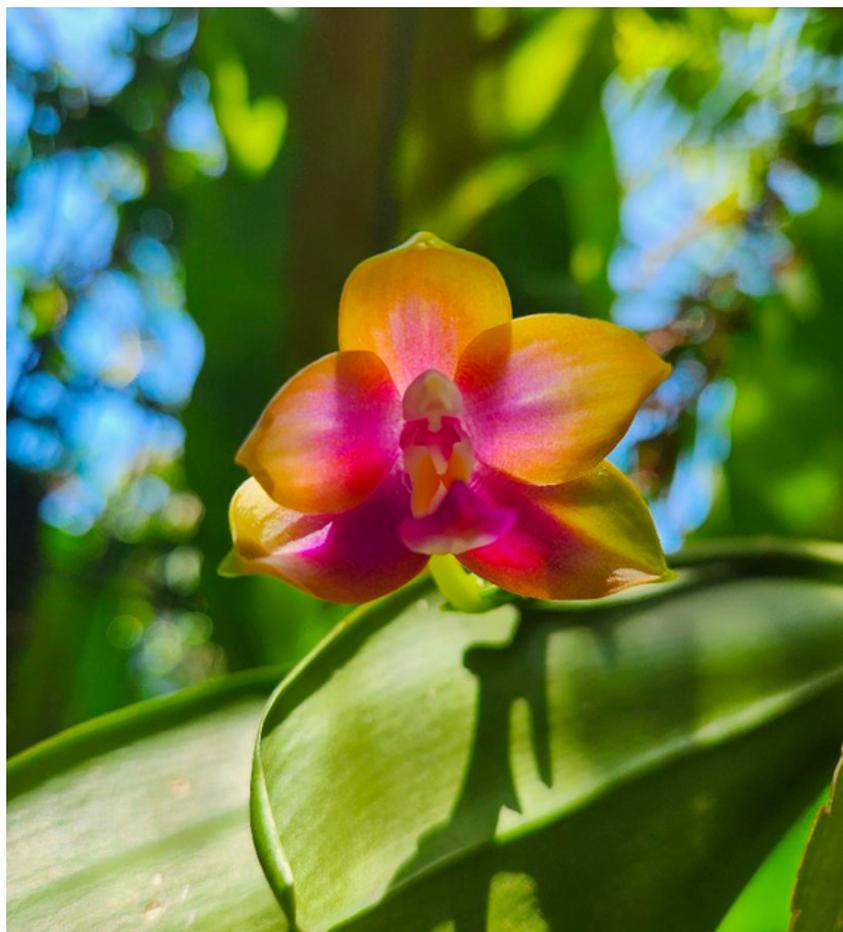
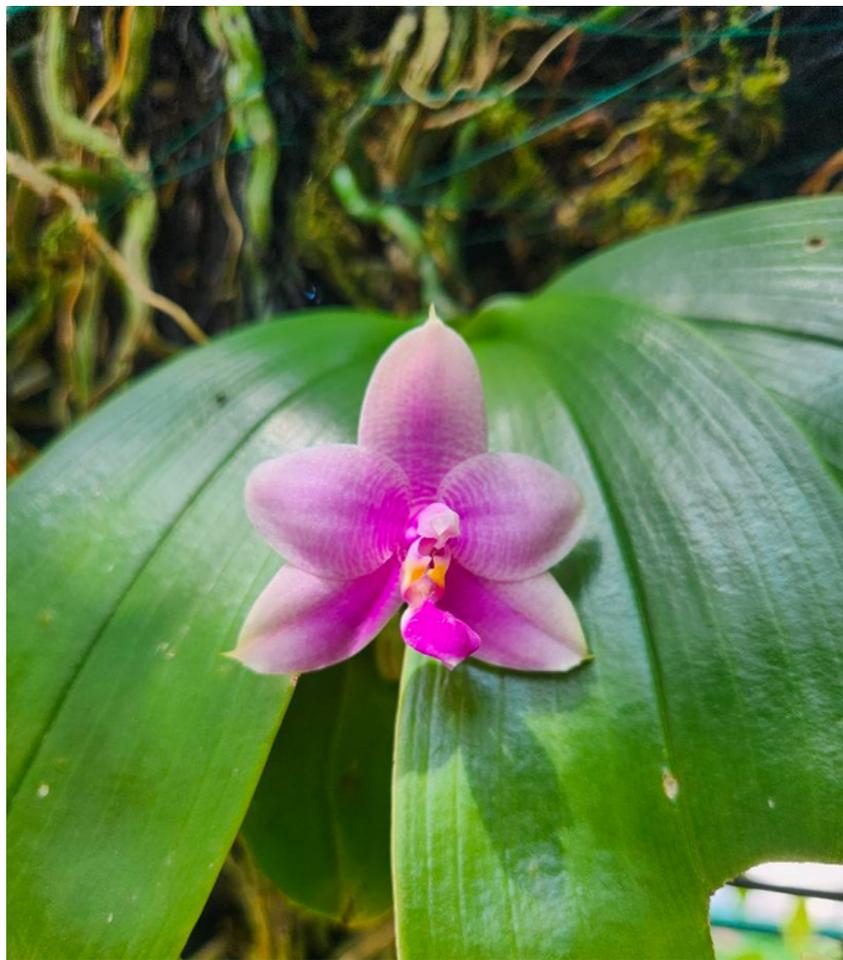
Clockwise from top left: *Paphiopedilum* Magic Cherry (Dan Williamson), *Barkeria spectabilis* (Chaunie Langland), *Cattleya* Sierra Doll 'Newberry' (Dan Williamson), and *Dendrobium kingianum* 'T.R. Samara' FCC/AOS (Anna Chai)



Top: *Pleione formosana* 'Polar Sun', grown by Anna Chai  
Bottom: *Pleione Ueli Wackernagel* 'Pearl', grown by Anthony Riviera



Clockwise from top left: *Caulocattleya Chantilly Lace 'Twinkle'*, *Sedirea Japonica Nagoran*, *Ascocentrum miniatum*, and *Maxillaria tenuifolia* (all grown by Viktoriia Kolotovska)



Clockwise from top left: *Cymbidium aloifolium* in Pasir Ris Park, Singapore (picture taken by Tom Waugh) and three NOID Phalaenopsis hybrids in Tom Waugh's daughter's garden in Singapore