

NOVEMBER 2025

THE SHEATH

NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY



Phalaenopsis Tying Shin Fly Eagle "Wilson #66",
grown by Dan Williamson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DENNIS OLIVAS

This October meeting, we had 23 members at the San Mateo Garden Center and 6 on Zoom. The opportunity table was donated by D&D Flowers with some choice species seedlings. We also had 3 blooming (1 Dendrobium and 2 Oncidiums) to auction off. Chaunie also donated a large *Barkeria spectabilis* for the auction. We made \$73 from the opportunity table and \$114 from the auction.

My tenure as President is almost over. It was a challenging year for me as I was out on trips more than other years. Thank you Dan, VP, for covering and conducting the general meetings due to my absence.

This month is our election for the new officers and board members slate. Please attend so we can vote them into their perspective positions. I encourage all the volunteers to our fall show (October 3-5, 2025) to attend as there will be an orchid gift for you. We appreciate all the support to the POS!

They are as follows:

President: Susan Gutierrez

Vice-President: vacant / nominations from the floor

Secretary: Leena Wang

Treasurer: Dan Williamson

Membership Chairperson: Moeed Fawad

Way and Means: Dennis Olivas

Past President: Dennis Olivas

Board members as follows:

James Shao

Sylvia Darr

Ken Jacobsen

Our finances have rebounded to the pre-pandemic level. We are not out of woods yet but with careful planning of the new officers and board members, we can increase our stability. We will need the membership's involvement to reach these goals. Together we will insure the stability of our organization.

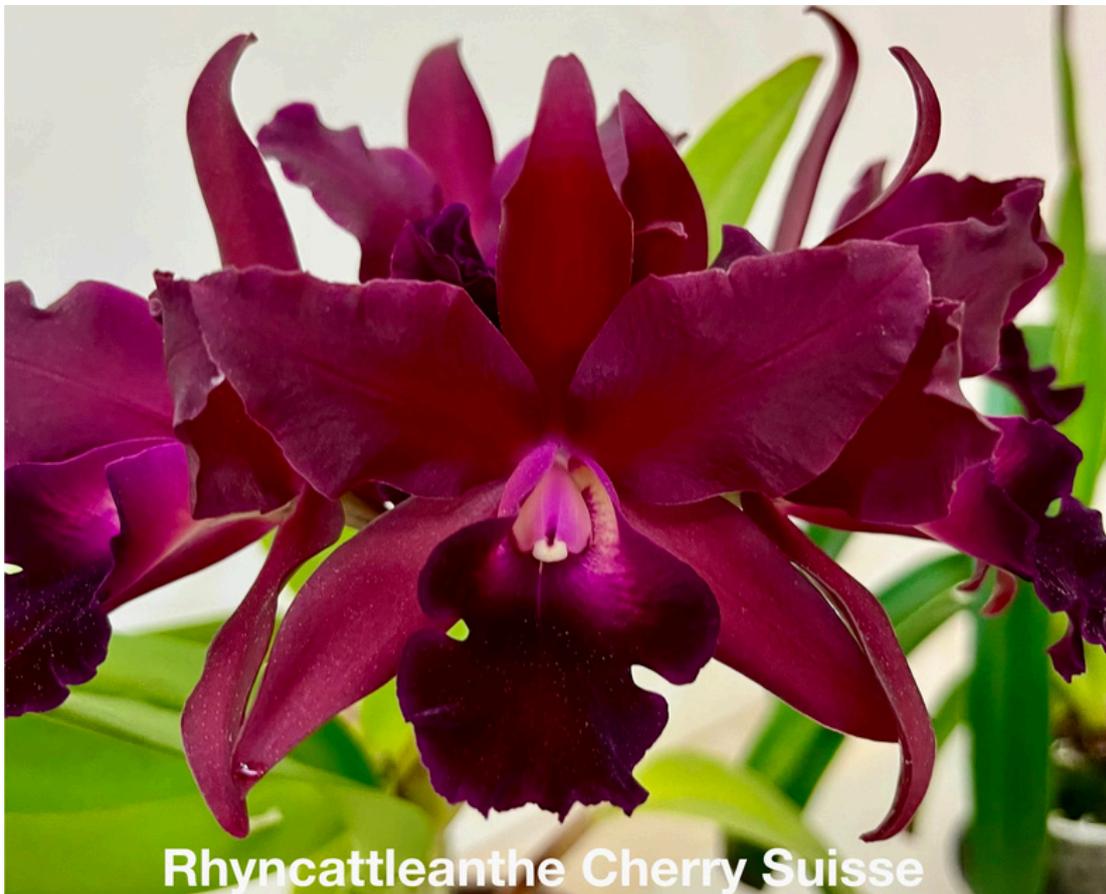
CALL FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

We are in need of members to volunteer to serve on the Board for 2026. There are a number of vacancies that need to be filled. If you would like to help the Society, please consider serving on the Board. We will need the following officers:

Vice-President

DONATION REMINDER

A reminder for end of the year tax planning. POS is a charity/501c3 corporation as are many churches, universities and other tax exempt organizations. There maybe tax benefits to donations including required distributions from IRA's, 401k's, inheritances, etc. Please consult your tax advisor or accountant for any such decisions.



Rhyncattleanthe Cherry Suisse

grown by Helena Wee

NOVEMBER SPEAKER

Our speaker this month is Dennis Olivas, who will present “10 of My Favorite Orchids”. We will have a mini-auction this month, with plants provided by D&D Flowers! A list of auction plants will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Dennis Olivas was born on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. As a lad, his helped his mom and aunt grow their orchids and got hooked. He joined the Future Farmers of America and his project was raising and selling these beautiful and exotic plants. In 1980 he moved to the mainland and swore off the orchid family; not for long as he was introduced to the Rod McLeallan’s Acres of Orchids’. From there his whole life became one downward spiral. First he fills his home with upwards of 6,000 plants. Later he leased a greenhouse space for his ever burgeoning orchid collection. Glutton for punishment, his collection grew overflowing the 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse in Half Moon Bay.

With the help of his close friends, from the Bay Area, Napa and Fresno, they moved his obsession to a 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse in Daly City in November of 2013. A whole new ball game of learning how to raise orchids, still without heat but in an area that gets more sun and higher temperatures, good water year round. Currently, Dennis rents 5,500 sq. ft. unheated greenhouse space as his collection increases.

He was President for the Peninsula Orchid Society, San Francisco Orchid Society, Diablo View Orchid Society and the Santa Cruz Orchid Society. He also served as vice- president, board of director, show chairman, membership and many other committees in these societies. He is an accredited judge of the American Orchid Society for over 30 years. Dennis belongs to over 14 orchid societies and tries to assist them whenever possible.

He traveled throughout the United States to speak to numerous orchid societies and garden clubs. He even traveled to Brazil to speak there. Throughout the years since 1988, he has been a vendor in up to 20 shows a year throughout California and Nevada. Although Dennis maintained a business as D&D Flowers, his real job was working for a large corporation in the Bay Area. He retired from the corporation in 2014 after 32 years of service,

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 28 - Peninsula Orchid Society November Meeting

Doors will open at 6:30 PM, at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA 94403, and meeting will begin at 7 PM. Dennis Olivas will be presenting “10 of My Favorite Orchids” and will provide plants for a mini-auction this meeting!

December 19 - Peninsula Orchid and Gold Coast Cymbidium Society Meeting

Doors will open at 6:30 PM, at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA 94403, and meeting will begin at 7 PM. Speaker TBD.

January 31 - Gold Coast Cymbidium Society Annual Auction

Doors will open at 1 PM, at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA 94403. Visit <https://www.goldcoastcymbidiumociety.org/> for more details.



Phalaenopsis Fangmei Black Piano

grown by Natalie Margulis

OCTOBER SHOW & TELL



Cymbidium Aussie Dreamtime

grown by Dan Williamson



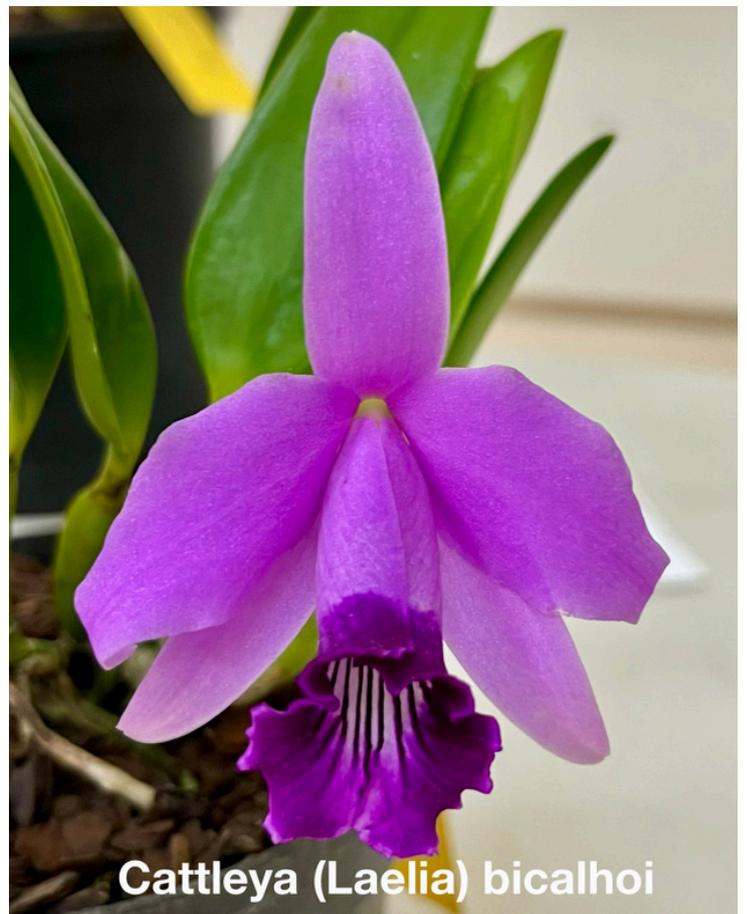
Paphiopedilum helenae

grown by Chaunie Langland



Cattleya Harmill 'Orange Glow' x Guaritonia Why Not

grown by Dennis Olivas



Cattleya (Laelia) bicalhoi

grown by Linsie Hu

MEMBER NEWS

If you would like your pictures to be in the next month's newsletter, send them to our email by the end of this month. Include the plant names and clear pictures.

Wishing a very happy birthday this month to Mimi Campbell, Henry Chaplin, Sylvia Darr, Roma Dziembaj, Stefanie Gould, Susan Gutierrez, Lolia Kwan, Chaunie Langland, Ben Merfalen, Tom Pickford, Bill Weaver!



Meeting Agenda

6:30 PM - SMGC doors open

7:00 PM - Zoom opens

7:00 PM - Speaker: Dennis Olivas

8:00 PM - Announcements

8:10 PM - Show and Tell

Mini Auction - D&D Orchids

Reminder

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

2025 Board

President - Dennis Olivas

Vice President - Dan Williamson

Recording Secretary - Leena Wang

Treasurer - Steve Proshan

Director of Membership - Olga Ostrovsky

Director of Ways and Means - Mark Khoo

Director at Large - Susan Gutierrez

Director at Large - Alex Cain

Director at Large - James Shao

Past President - Ken Jacobsen

Newsletter Editor - Leena Wang

Do you have something you would like to include in the next newsletter?
Send an email to penorchidsoc@yahoo.com!