

The Sheath

August General Meeting

Date: August 24, 2012

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

No Skill Session this month.

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

Speaker: Mary Gerritsen

**Ascent to Mount Roraima:
Orchids and Carnivorous
plants in the Lost World**

**Opportunity table by
Mary Gerritsen**

Ascent to Mount Roraima: Orchids and Carnivorous plants in the Lost World

Mount Roraima is a plateau in South America straddling the border of Brazil, Venezuela and Guyana and was the inspiration for the location of the Pixar movie Up.

Mary Gerritsen, Ph.D. is an independent biotechnology consultant who has been growing orchids (mostly species) on and off for more than 30 years, and since relocating to the San Francisco Bay area in 1997 started to amass a collection of small cool growing miniature species such as Masdevallias, Porroglossums, Lepanthes and other assorted tiny gems. She also has a second intermediate greenhouse, filled with larger species such as Angraecoids, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Laelias, Phalaenopsis and Bulbophyllums. She loves to see orchids growing in situ, and has made it her mission over the last few years to see as many as possible, with trips to see and photograph orchids (and other flora as well) in Canada, various states in the USA, Mexico, Ecuador, Peru, Costa Rica, Panama, Brazil, China, Germany, Rhodes and Crete, Australia and most recently, Borneo. She is the co-author of two botanical books: Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World, and Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives, with

fellow Peninsula Orchid Society Member and well known photographer, Ron Parsons. Mary is now working on a third book "Miniature Orchids" with Ron Parsons. In addition to being a member and past president of the Peninsula Orchid Society she is a member of the Pleurothallid Alliance.. She is currently the president of the San Francisco Orchid Society.

*Opportunity table provided by Mary
Gerritsen.*

Skill Session

There will be no skill session this month, come join us at 7:00pm for refreshments and socialization.

Special Meeting note: We will have a special Silent Auction of some very nice Paphiopedilums and maybe some Phrags from the late Ann Cavender's collection. The auction will be open from 7:10 PM until the break between Show & Tell and Mary's presentation.

Annual Auction

Volunteers are needed for the following positions:

Plant Check-in (2 people plus Judy) 10:45AM-1:00PM

Plant Set-up (carry from check-in area to display area) 10:45AM-1:00PM

Runners (6 - 3 on each shift) 1:30PM-3:00PM and 3:15PM-5:00PM

White Board Writer (2 - 1 on each shift) 1:30PM-3:00PM and 3:15PM-5:00PM

Cashiers (2) 1:30-5:00PM

Refreshments (2) 12:30-5:00PM

Cashiers for \$5 Table (2 - 1 on each shift) 1:30PM-3:00PM and 3:15PM-5:00PM

Hospitality (2) - answer questions on how things work

Please contact Dan Williamson 650-498-9947 or [dwillmsn-pos\(at\)yahoo\(dot\)com](mailto:dwillmsn-pos(at)yahoo(dot)com) or Mike Drilling 650-692-8998 [mike\(dot\)drilling\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:mike(dot)drilling(at)gmail(dot)com) to volunteer.

The Society welcomes and greatly appreciates all donations - this event is our main source of income for paying our expenses throughout the year. Auction Plants and Items will be accepted beginning at 11:00 AM. Sellers must be POS members. Items must be presented for check-in by 1:00 PM - including pre-registered plants and items. No exceptions. Items should arrive for check-in already tagged with their orchid code, your name, and minimum bid (if any). If there is no minimum bid set, then the auctioneers will start your plant at a price they deem reasonable. The list and example photos of pre-registered items can be found at the website, <http://penorchidsoc.org/>, starting September 10th or earlier, and will be updated regularly.

Plants should be established and must be disease and insect free. Please bring only plants that you would bid on. The POS reserves the right to refuse any plant or supplies offered for auction. We will have an "instant sale" area at the back of the room. Plants will be sold for \$5 until 3:30 PM. After that the price will be \$2. Should you take a chance and hope the plant you want will still be there at 3:30? Hmmm....

You may want to bring a box or two with you, to take home all of your new found treasures.

Refreshments will be served - you are still welcome to bring goodies with you and they will be much appreciated!

Due to lack of internet access at the garden center, we can only accept cash or checks.

Pre-entry of plants:

By e-mail, please send your entries to Dan Williamson dwillmsn-pos@yahoo.com. You are encouraged to send photos if you have them - please use a description of the plant as the file name and let us know if we can also put them on the Facebook page. Please list your orchid code, plant name, minimum bid (if any), and whether or not it is a donation. By mail, please use a copy of the form attached to the newsletter. Please send to: Dan Williamson, 727 Clark Way, Palo Alto, CA 94304.

Meeting Photos



Phrag Devil Fire by Miki White



**Bllra. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream'
AM/AOS**



**Odontocidium Tiger
Crow 'Golden Girl'**

Both by Janusz Warszawski



Cattleya maxima '#1'



Cattleya forbesii 'Equilab'

Both brought in by Fred Shull



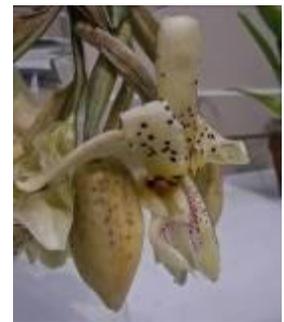
**Lc. Ann Akagi 'Emiko'
By Barry Zimmerman**



**Cymbidium suavissimum
By Barry Zimmerman**



Stanhopea wardii by Miki White





Enc. Hanburyi x C. Summer Spot
By Sung Lee



Epi. Pfavi x rariferum



Pleurothallis viduata 'selby'
Both by Jasen Liu



Lc. Blazing Treat by Jasen Liu



Enc. Alata by Sung Lee



Ken Jacobsen explains
how to use Agdia virus test kits



Everyone wanted to get a good look at the process for testing an orchid plant for virus.

Photos taken and graciously provided by Chaunie Langland.

Member News



A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Lee Chen, Zachary Coney, Scott Dallas, Susan Hamilton, Gwen Layritz, Tom Perlite, Janet Rector, and Ginette Sanchou!

Refreshments: Jason Liu, Chaunie Langland, Dennis Olivas, Janusz Warszawski, Susan Tong, Mike Rector, Chris Mende, Trudy Hadler, Kristine Kradjian, Mellie Metcalf, Todd Kennedy, Ginette Sanchou, Donna Horn, and Rene Biggs all brought treats. Thank you very much!

Editor's Corner

My collection of orchids has had a rough summer this year. I went overboard on pesticide in the spring and while I did wipe out the scale, I also managed to build up a lot of salt in the medium of many of my plants. This weakened them and made them even more susceptible to scale returning from new plants and the environment. While some of the plants would eventually recover, many of them withered and outright died. It got me thinking that keeping plants limping along just wasn't worth it. I don't have that much bench space and using it for plants that may not bloom again for years and may not be show worthy for even longer just isn't worth it. The show season is coming up and the auction is next month. I will have lots of opportunity to get some truly great plants to replace the bad ones. So I've tossed about 18 out of an original 85 plants into the garbage to make room for new ones.

I still have a couple of plants with sentimental value that are limping along, but I also have a lot more space on my bench to fill with great new plants from the auction, and the upcoming shows.

For those of you with limited space, and all of us are constrained, take a look around, I'll bet you have more than a few plants that should really be tossed out to make room for new, better plants.

See you at the meeting!

Dan

Upcoming Events

August 18 Palomar Orchid Society Annual Auction - Women's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad. Preview 11 AM, Auction begins at noon. See www.palomarorchid.org for details.

September 1st Kreg Martin's Orchid Sale in Cupertino. Orchid hobbyist Kreg Martin has had a change of priorities and has decided to sell most of his orchid collection. There will be a sale at Kreg's greenhouse in Cupertino on Saturday, September 1st, 2012 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Payment is by cash or check only.

Kreg grows a great variety of orchids. Most are intermediate to warm growing, but the collection includes some cymbidiums and other orchids that grow outdoors.

The collection contains some hybrids, but even more species, including Cattleyas, Dendrobiums, Bulbophyllums, Dendrochilums, and many others. Some of the plants are very unusual, or rarely seen in cultivation. A list of plants available is available from Angelic Nguyen (Ph: 408-476-7153 email: services@orchidesign.com) or Kreg Martin (Ph: 408-529-2765 email: kreg@verizon.net).

The greenhouse is behind a private residence at 19161 Cozette Lane in Cupertino. Please do not block its driveway or any other driveways on this small lane off of Tantau Avenue two blocks south of Stevens Creek Boulevard. Please bring your own boxes.

We will have some boxes, but not enough for everybody.

September 15th San Mateo Garden Center Fall Festival. The POS and the Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Society will be there and the POS will give a demonstration and sell some plants. \$5 admission see the flyer below

September 15-16 Orchids in the Park in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, see the flyer, below.

September 28th No POS monthly meeting because:

September 29th POS Annual Auction. See the notice above and in the next issue of the Sheath for more information. Plant check-in 11:00 to 1:00. Auction 1:30 to 5:00.

September 29th California Orchids fall open house. See www.californiaorchids.com or the flyer below, for more information

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*Remember, our meeting is August
24th!*

Peninsula Orchid Society
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