



# *The Sheath*

## April General Meeting

Date: April 22, 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: Keith Davis

**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: Keith Davis

Title: Growing Award Winning  
Cattleyas

Opportunity Table by: Keith Davis



## **Title: Growing Award Winning Cattleyas**

Keith Davis was born in California but moved to Mexico with his missionary parents when eight years old in 1959. In 1974 he attended North Carolina State University where he obtained degrees in forestry, horticulture and agricultural education. After school, he moved to Corpus Christi, Texas where he worked on an oil rig and taught horticulture and purchased his first orchid at a yard sale. It was Lc. Molly Tyler FCC which he still has to this day. After moving to Reidsville, NC in 1984, Keith worked 19 years for North Carolina State University as the grounds and greenhouse superintendent at Chinqua-Penn Plantation owned by the university. In 1997, he and his wife Dixie, adopted their only child, April LeeAndra, for which many of his best orchids are named. Keith is now retired and looks after three farms, his greenhouse full of orchids and helps with a new grandson named Bentley.

In August of 2002, a disaster struck his orchid collection when the power went off at the greenhouse he was leasing. The temperature soared to over 130 degrees and about

90% of his large collection of mainly cattleya alliance orchids was lost. Thanks to many friends, the generosity of orchid growers far and wide and his breeding program, Keith is well on his way back to having a respectable collection again.

Much information for his programs comes from personal experience, research, trial and error, and gleaning from a host of orchid growers through the years. Keith enjoys the “hunt” for those rare and hard to find plants and gladly helps other growers out.

Keith’s talk is entitled GROWING AWARD WINNING CATTLEYAS. Ever wonder how some growers seem to have “all the luck” with their plants getting awards? Well, it is not so much luck as it is skill in knowing how to grow those plants, how to prepare the plants and blooms ahead of time and initial selection of plants to grow for possible awards. Awards can be had on the society show table, an orchid show where hundreds of people will view your plants, or even with the AOS judging system. Some growers just enjoy the blooms for their own satisfaction which is more rewarding if the blooms are of award quality. This talk will cover these topics and many other cardinal rules on growing award winning cattleyas. A handout will be provided with points of topic.

Keith’s web site is [www.keithdavisorchids.com](http://www.keithdavisorchids.com)

Davis has written several articles on ghost orchids that delve into the details of his research, many of which can be found online.



Ghost Orchid

Ghost orchids, the extremely rare flowers known for their pale ethereal bloom, had never before been bred in captivity. Orchid enthusiasts pursue the plant with such fervor they had even attempted to grow them using a procedure similar to invitro fertilization, and many are collected illegally. However, Keith Davis, who graduated from NCSU in 1979, has recently discovered how to grow and protect the endangered flower.

## **Skill Session:**

**Ask an Expert:** 7:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. in the main meeting room. You have questions, and our orchid expert has answers (or knows how to find them). “How often should I water?” “What’s causing the spots on my orchid’s leaves?” “When should I repot this?” “Why won’t this flower?” “How should I grow this?” Any and all orchid related questions are welcome. If you have questions about an orchid with pest or disease problems, please bring the plant in a plastic bag and keep it isolated from other orchids at the meeting.

## **March Speaker:**

Thank You to Neal Winslow for his talk on Odontoglossums, Masdevallias and other Cool Growing Orchids.



What an amazing history these plants have had. To think they were almost extinct and then made a come-back, just in time for us to enjoy their vast color and pattern variations, with a little help from dedicated growers.



## President's Corner

**POS Annual Auction is on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars!**

### **Auction Tips**

**The Show & Tell Table at each meeting is 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.

**More is not always better.** Selling a couple of divisions of the same plant is fine, but selling more than three of the exact same thing risks saturating the market and driving down your auction prices. Also, bigger plants command higher prices, up to a point. Not everyone has room for a giant orchid, or even the strength to lift it.

**Sentiment has no place at the auction.** Your very first orchid may be special to you, but bidders will not care. The same goes for orchids you rescued and nursed back to health. Be proud of your accomplishments, but don't expect bidders to pay up for them.

**Keep photographing your orchids as they bloom.** These photos will be your strongest promotional device if your plant isn't in bloom at the auction.

### **Help Still Wanted**

**Sheath Editor:** Trying new things helps to keep you young, so this job is like a monthly drink from the fountain of youth! No experience necessary. Cut here, paste there, and bask in the admiration of your fellow members. Mike Rector is filling in admirably at the moment, but someone needs to step up to this crucial job on a longer term basis.

**Food Coordinator:** Thanks to all members who have been filling in. Perhaps one of you would like to grasp the official title of Food Coordinator? Make coffee, put out cups, clean up later, nothing difficult or time consuming required.

**Bus Tour Organizer:** Want to be whisked by motor coach to several area orchid nurseries along with lots of your orchid friends? Then volunteer to organize the tour! A

calendar; a few polite phone calls, and a willingness to share your plans with our membership is all that is required.

**2017 Orchid Show Chair:** Ever wanted a job where you can take the spring and summer off? How about a job where all you have to do is ask questions? “Is it done?” “When will it be done?” “What do you need in order to get it done?” Share the answers you receive with the board, and repeat the questions as necessary. That is pretty much all there is to the job of this year’s Orchid Show Chair. Your eager and capable specialty chairs will do the rest, you just keep them on track.

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

**New Features: It pays to get to the meetings early!**

**Beginners / New Members Forum:** 7:00 p.m. in the main meeting room. Starting with the March meeting, there will be a forum for beginners and new members led by our head of membership, Janusz Warszawski. All topics of interest to beginning orchid growers are fair game. Attend the forum a few times, and you won’t be a beginner for long!

**Ask an Expert:** 7:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. in the main meeting room near the podium. You have questions, and our orchid expert has answers (or knows how to find them). “How often should I water?” “What’s causing the spots on my orchid’s leaves?” “When should I repot this?” “Why won’t this flower?” “How should I grow this?” Any and all orchid related questions are welcome. If you have questions about an orchid with pest or disease problems, please bring the plant in a plastic bag and keep it isolated from other orchids at the meeting.

### **Miscellaneous**

Bring some Ruffles, win some raffles!

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:**

Karen Bartholomew, Greg Corrales, Don Creevy, Rosalle Dedo, Cassandra Gaunt, Mike Green, Pam Hoffman, Carl Jukkola, Mark Khoo, Japheth Ko, Jackie Krstulovich, Tanya Lam, Eric Langland, Elizabeth Lee, Melly Metcalf, Lisa Taylor, Pauline Wong.

### **New Members:**

Hoda Hassan and Pam Hoffman - Ok members, look for Hoda and Pam and give them a warm welcome this month.

### **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.** We will have Orchidata orchid bark for sale at the [April](#) meeting. The product grades are labeled Classic (fine), Power (medium) and Power+ (coarse), and are packaged in 40 liter bags (approximately 20 lbs). This is a very good opportunity to get this very popular orchid planting mix at "members only" prices. In addition we will have pots, bamboo stakes, labels, ties, razors blades and pens.



Our thanks to Sylvia Darr, Marron Honigman and Stanley Fuelscher, members of POS and GCCG, for helping us with this very valuable service.

Did you notice the Orchid Supplies at the March meeting? A nice addition to our general meetings, here are orchid supplies right on hand ready to make your orchid growing experience a piece of cake.

## The POS Board of Directors

President:	Tom Mudge	tjmudge@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Neal Winslow	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:	OPEN	
Sheath Editor: (temp)	Mike Rector	mrector@verizon.net
Web Editor:	Joseph Kautz	jjbirder@yahoo.com
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	

**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 Neal Winslow [nwinslow4@comcast.net](mailto:nwinslow4@comcast.net)**

## Upcoming Events:

### More Information on Filoli, Mother's Day Flower Show

POS will participate in the **FILOLI FLOWER SHOW — CALIFORNIA THEN AND NOW, 1916–2016** on Mother's Day weekend at the Filoli Estate in Woodside. We will be setting up a display in the Butler's Pantry, which is a nice space to display orchids. Any members who have plants to display should bring them to Filoli Thursday morning May 5th. Rex will stage the plants on the plating table, but there is room for Cyms and other larger plants on the counters.

We will also need to staff the area with members who can answer questions and generally keep an eye on the public. We will need to have people present from 10-4 Friday through Sunday. This is a great time to share your enthusiasm for orchids and maybe put in a good word for the society. As a bonus you get to enjoy the beautiful Filoli estate, which will be filled with flowers of all kinds for the weekend. Please contact Neal Winslow or Mike Rector if you are willing to represent POS at this event. We will have a signup sheet at the next meeting, but those that contact us early will get priority on the time slots.

Contact info for Neal: [nwinslow4@comcast.net](mailto:nwinslow4@comcast.net)

Mike: [mrector@verizon.net](mailto:mrector@verizon.net)

We will need 1 person from 10 to 1pm and 1 person 1pm to 4pm on Friday, May 5th, Saturday, May 6th and on Sunday, May 8th.

For our potting workshop and sales area we will need 3 people from 10am to 1pm and 3 people from 1pm to 4pm. Also, on the same days mentioned above.

Then on Sunday we could use help with clean up and tear down, 2 - 3 people from 4pm to 5:30pm.

Don't forget if you want to display orchids, but don't want to work please contact one of us and we can help with pick-up and delivery.

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April 24, 2016 Annual Native Plant Garden Tour Sunday 11 AM - 3 PM California Native Plant Society, Yerba Buena Chapter, San Francisco. Free and self-paced tour. No registration required-plants available for sale at selected sites. For maps, garden list and more, visit: [www.cnps-yerbabuena.org](http://www.cnps-yerbabuena.org)

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May 13, 2016 Napa Valley Orchid Society Annual Auction 7PM Napa Senior Center 1500 Jefferson Street, Napa Free and Open to the Public. [www.nv-os.org](http://www.nv-os.org).

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**May 21st & 22nd , 2016  
9:00 am to 3 pm  
D & D Flowers Spring Open-house  
At the new location on  
169 1st Avenue  
Daly City, CA 94014**

**(D&D Flowers is not open to the public except during the spring and fall scheduled open houses)**

Directions 280 South from San Francisco: Take the Eastmoore exit and veer to the right onto Sullivan Avenue. At the stop light, make a right onto Washington Street (service station on the right and Krispy Kream Donut at opposite corner). Go over the freeway, through Junipero Serra Blvd to San Pedro (Catholic Church at intersection). Make a left onto San Pedro and continue through Mission Street between Bank of America and Wendy's. At the stop sign, make a left onto 1st Avenue. Greenhouse is on the right hand side of the 3<sup>rd</sup> house with the red garage and a sign reading Demattei Nursery. Enter the gate of the chain link fence with red lattice on the left hand side of the red garage.

Directions 280 north of Hicky Blvd.: Take the Pacifica/Eastmoore Avenue exit and veer to the right to the Eastmoore Avenue exit. At the stop light, you would like to be on the 2nd lane to the left. Turn left onto Junipero Serra Blvd and at the stop light; make a right turn onto San Pedro Road. Then continue through Mission Street between Bank of America and Wendy's. At the stop sign, make a left onto 1st Avenue. Greenhouse is on the right hand side of the 3<sup>rd</sup> house with the red garage and a sign reading Demattei Nursery. Enter the gate of the chain link fence with red lattice on the left hand side of the red garage.

Please drive safely. Limited street parking so please car pool. Do not park within the chain link fence.

Mahalo for your cooperation!!!!!!

Dennis

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
- Additional Member same household \$10.00

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

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Pictures from the March Meeting - Show and Tell Table  
Thank You Super as Usual!



