

THE SHEATH

NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY



SEPTEMBER 27

“Orchid Culture Tips”, by Jim Heilig

MEMBER NEWS

October Show and Sale:

Our October Falling for Flowers Show and Sale is just around the corner, October 12-13! We encourage members to bring blooming plants for the display. It's not a good display without your blooming orchids. Yes, people want to see Phalaenopsis!! You might even discover that it is fun having your orchids in the show and seeing people admire them. Just clean off the leaves, trim off old spikes and make sure there are no mealy bugs, scale or aphids, then bring your lovely plants in on Friday afternoon.

Instructions are attached in the next page.

Here is the information for member sales:

1. Please bring your sale and/or display plants to the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA Friday, October 11 between 5-8 PM.
2. The show ends Sunday at 4:00 PM - plants should be picked up between 4:00 to 4:30 PM.
3. Members receive 75% and POS keeps 25% of the sales.
4. Member sales staff have the right to refuse plants that have pests or appear virused.

Thank you all for your support of POS! Donated plants are greatly appreciated as well.

For members who are out of town and would like to participate in member sales, our President has kindly offered to make arrangements if he can. Please contact Dan at danwillmsn-home@yahoo.com

Cover: Eulophia, grown by Tanya Lam, our speaker at the August meeting

Member Sales Instructions

See the forms to print and use for member sales.

For those new to this, each plant you want to sell or donate to POS must be given a five character code (3 letters and 2 numbers), generally your initials and two digits. It's possible another member may have your initials, so using a third letter such as your middle initial makes it less likely. 75% of the pre-tax price will go to you, and 25% to POS (POS will be responsible for paying sales tax and related credit card charges).

An electronic copy of the list of your sales plants must be emailed to Steve Proshan at stevepros@gmail.com by noon on Thursday, October 10. Use the POS Member Sales form. This will give him time to get the plants into the Square database and prepare barcodes. Also, let Steve know at that time if he should send your money via PayPal or check.

Steve will print barcode labels on self-adhesive address labels and bring them to the Garden Center on Friday, the 11th. If you prefer to print the labels yourself, he will generate the barcodes and send the list to you in a PDF, so that you can print the labels – either on address labels or plain paper (the latter would require cutting the barcodes to size and taping them to your plants).

Each plant you bring to sell will need to be clearly labeled, with the 5-digit codes, to insure that the correct labels are placed on each plant. You also need to bring a hard copy list of all of your sales plants to check-in on Friday, October 11. Print a copy of the POS Member Sales form. During plant check-in, volunteers will cross-check the list against your plants, and assist you in attaching the barcode labels to the plants.

Please make sure your plants are clearly labeled and your lists are up to date before bringing your plants to the check-in area as there may not be much room to work there.

The show ends Sunday at 4 PM - plants should be picked up between 4:00-4:30 PM.

Birthdays:

Wishing a very happy birthday this month to Sandra Charles, Mary Gerritsen, Amy Jacobsen, Mary Jensen, Dennis Olivas, Walt Roseberry, and Yang Zhao!

Show and Tell:

If you plan to attend via Zoom and want to show your orchids at the meeting, please send photos to Dan Williamson (dwillmsn-home@yahoo.com) and prepare to share. You may prepare a slide presentation or a display, and photograph it and talk about your various plants. If you would like your pictures to be in the next month's newsletter, send them to our email (penorchidsoc@yahoo.com) by the end of the second Friday of the month. Include the name and clear pictures.

Orchid Buds Assistant Program (Pacific Central Judging Center):

Pacific Central Judging Center (PCJC or Pac Central) is the local American Orchid Society (AOS) judging center. We have two regular monthly judgings as well as judging at local orchid shows and occasional outreach judgings at orchid societies meetings.

If you are interested in orchids, and would like to see and learn more about them, we invite you to join our judging team as a volunteer assistant. Your duties would be to assist the AOS judges with plant entry at the judging site, help move the plants to the judging tables, assist the photographer in photographing award winning flowers, help keep track of paperwork, and various other tasks as they come up. Only a small amount of training is needed. You will get a chance to see special orchids and get some ideas on how to spot them when shopping for your collection.

There are no specific time or attendance requirements for this volunteer commitment, only the desire to come to judging sessions, help out the judges, and learn about orchids.

Contact Chaunie Langland at (510) 364-2274 or paccentraljc@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer. Visit our website at www.paccentraljc.org and see what we do.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAN WILLIAMSON

Welcome to Fall, the past week or so of cooler weather has really been appreciated, even if my Stanhopeas have been hoping for warmer weather to encourage blooming. We are forming the Nominating Committee and beginning the search for new board members, I encourage anyone with an interest in helping direct the society volunteer and get involved. The board members do not have to be veteran orchid growers.

As we approach the October show and sale, Falling into Orchids, I wanted to share some quick tips for preparing your plants for the show and sale. Start by selecting plants that might have flowers in good condition for the show.

1. Inspect the plant for bugs, pests and disease and don't bring anything to a show that has them. Keep them at home and enjoy the flowers there.
2. Stake your inflorescences to show the flowers at their best, keep any ties and stakes subtle and as unobtrusive as possible, generally the bee, butterfly and dragonfly clips are discouraged, as they take attention away from the flowers.
3. Cache pots are a good idea, both because they keep humidity around the roots while the plant is on display and because they can stabilize the plant and make it easier to display. Paper crumpled and pushed between the pot and cache pot can be used to keep the pot stable, tilt the pot, or elevate it up for a better display.
4. Clean up any dead leaves, ragged sheaths, and other detritus in the pot and on the plant.
5. Push any labels down into the pot, or conceal them with a top dressing of moss.
6. Finally, write your name on your pots and cache pots. I use painters tape on plastic pots and sharpie on the bottom of clay pots when I can and painters tape when I can't.

For sale plants, the advice is much the same. Inspect for pests and disease, clean up dead leaves and detritus. There are two other pieces of advice for sale plants. First, if you have a photo of the flower, print that out and tape it to a bamboo skewer or other post in the pot. Second, sale plants should be established, and preferably not newly divided.

I am looking forward to our new show and sale and I hope you are too. There is a Signup Genius site for volunteers, and if you can't volunteer, baked goods, or other refreshments would be gratefully received:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AAFAD29A0F4C43-51409983-fall#/>

ORCHID TALK

Jim grew up in Michigan and has had an interest in plants from a very young age. He pursued his B.S. in Horticulture from Michigan State University. After time in industry, including the Michigan Dept of Agriculture, he returned to MSU to complete his M.S. and Ph.D. in Plant Breeding, Genetics, and Biotechnology. Currently Jim is a Raspberry Molecular Breeder at Driscoll's in Watsonville.

Jim has been growing orchids for over 25 years. His interests have revolved around Phalaenopsis and Angraecoids, and other interesting relatives, among many others. He has been breeding orchids for over 15 years with a particular interest in exploring the genetics of various Phalaenopsis species in simple hybrids (primary and near primary) and has explored other groups such as Angraecoids and Habenaria.

Jim became a judge at the Great Lakes Judging Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan and currently belongs to the Pacific Central Judging Center. He has served various roles in local orchid societies, including at his home society, the Greater Lansing Orchid Society, in Michigan. He is currently a member of the Santa Cruz Orchid Society.

Through his time growing orchids he has grown under various environments including windowsills, under lights in the basement, as well as outdoors and in a greenhouse. Over his years of experience with orchids Jim has learned various tricks and tips to grow healthy, productive plants. He will share some of the techniques he has learned to deal with plant nutrition, proper watering, pest control, and general culture. Hopefully some of these ideas are already familiar, and hopefully you learn something new!

This meeting, opportunity table plants will be provided by Mary Gerritsen. In addition, Viktoriia will be bringing orchids and other plants to sell at the meeting!

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 27 - Peninsula Orchid Society Meeting

Doors and Zoom open at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7 pm, at the San Mateo Garden Center. Our speaker this month is Jim Heilig and OT plants will be provided by Mary Gerritsen.

October 8 - Peninsula Orchid Society Board Meeting

Board meetings generally occur on the second Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in attending, please email Dan at dwillmsn-home@yahoo.com

October 12-13 - Falling For Orchids (POS Show and Sale)

From Saturday 9 am - 5 pm to Sunday 9 am to 4 pm. Six vendors plus member sales, and orchid displays. At the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA.

October 22 - Marin Orchid Society Annual Auction

Join Marin Orchid Society on Tuesday, October 22 at 6 pm at Kol Shofar, in Tiburon for their annual orchid auction. <https://marinorchidsociety.com/>

2024 Board of Directors

President - Dan Williamson

Vice President - Leena Wang

Recording Secretary - Dan Williamson

Treasurer - Steve Proshan

Director of Membership - Olga Ostrovsky

Director of Ways and Means - Mark Khoo

Director at Large - Susan Gutierrez

Director at Large - Joseph Kautz

Director at Large - 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!

Meeting Agenda

6:30 PM - Zoom/SMGC doors open

7:00 PM - Jim Heilig

8:00 PM - Announcements

8:10 PM - Show and Tell

Opportunity Table - Mary Gerritsen

Reminder

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

PENINSULA ORCHID
SOCIETY PRESENTS

Falling for Orchids!

Orchid Show and Sale

Oct. 12 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Admission \$2

Oct. 13 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

FREE Admission

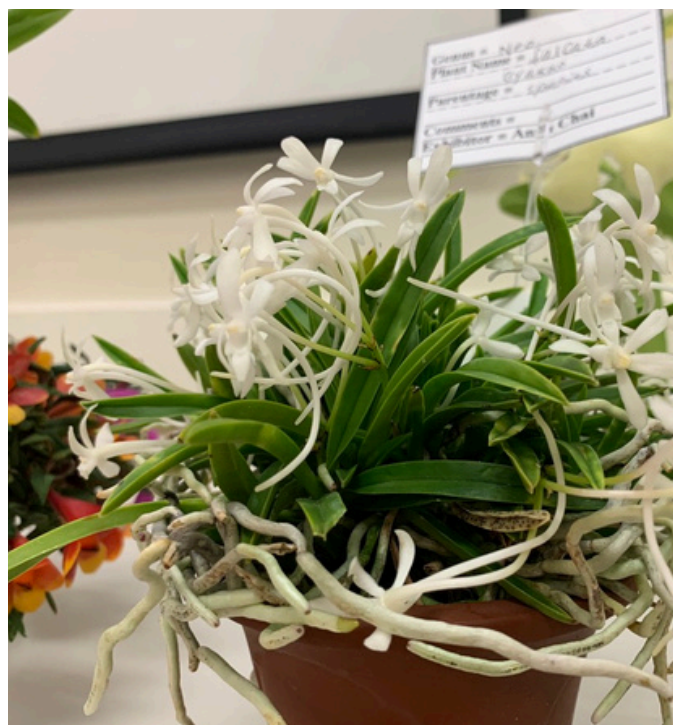
San Mateo Garden Center
605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA

**SIX VENDORS &
MEMBER SALES**

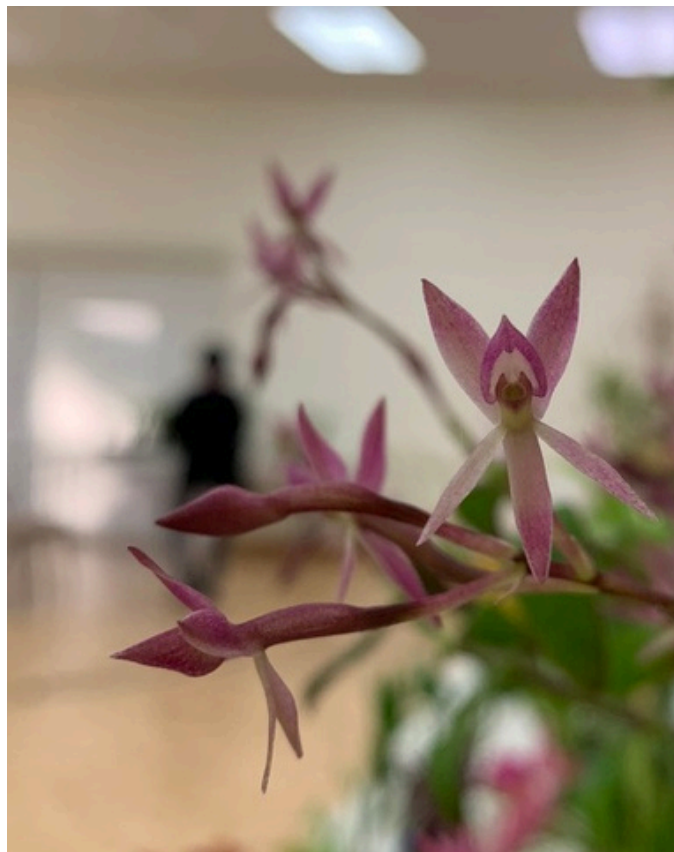
ORCHID DISPLAYS



SHOW AND TELL



Clockwise from top left: *Sophrolaeliocattleya* Jungle Gem 'Firework' (Helena Wee), *Encyclia alata* (Helena Wee), *Vanda falcata* Byakko (Anna Chai), and *Phalaenopsis lindenii* (Viktoriia Kolotovska)



Clockwise from top left: *Cattleya Orchidglade* 'SVO' x *Sophrolaeliocattleya Angel Eyes* 'SVO' (Leena Wang), *Epidendrum quisayanum* (Catherine Obillo), *Laeliocatanthe Kahili Kea* 'Delft Beauty' (Viktorii Kolotovska), and *Sobralia xantholeuca* (Tanya Lam)