

# The Sheath

*January - no Meeting!*

POS Annual Show is this month!

Dates: **January 17 & 18**

Time: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Place: Community Activities Building,  
1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Redwood  
City

Volunteers still needed - please help -  
please call the chair persons listed  
below

**Friday, January 16**

Bring your plants for  
entry in the show  
between **2:00 PM and**  
**6:30 PM**

There is **no cost** to  
enter your plants! If  
you win an AOS or  
CSA award there is a  
nominal cost for the  
award - you can opt out  
when you enter.

Admissions - Gloria Bygdnes 650 368-6475

Hospitality - Carol Zoltowski 415-657-3222

Security - Mike Rector 650 366-3401

Membership & Raffle - Ginette Sanchou 650 361-8658

Judging Clerks - Sue Rose 650 322 9853

## **Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers**

**"Little Known Cymbidium Species" speaker - Ken Jacobsen**

**GCCG** will hold their meeting at the San Mateo Garden Center on Friday, January 23. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM. The doors open and plant sales begin at 7:00 PM. POS members are welcome to attend.

Speaker Ken Jacobsen is President of the Peninsula Orchid Society and a Past President of GCCG. Ken will be speaking on the "Little Known Cymbidium Species". This will include *Cymbidium aestivum*, *Cymbidium banaense* and *Cymbidium chawalongense* as some of the recently discovered species. Ken will also be providing the Opportunity Table.

### President's Corner

The annual show is almost upon us and there's nothing better than a great orchid show to start the New Year off right. There's something about seeing so many gorgeous plants all showing the pride of their owners that's really inspiring. What's especially inspiring to me is to see plants brought in by new members or novice growers who invariably surprise me with the plants they're displaying and how well those plants have been grown. I certainly hope to see a large number of plants brought in by novice growers this year – surprises are good!

Of course, since the show is almost here, it's almost too late to start cleaning up your plants so they'll look their best at the show. Everyone knows the basics of plant cleaning, but I thought I would go over a list of tips.

- Several weeks before the show, bring the plants that may be ready for display on the show date into a staging area. This will allow the plants to have more room and daily attention, which can lead to better flowering. Be sure in the staging area to orient your plants carefully toward the light and place them on tables about the same height as tables used in the show. Remember that flowers will tend to go toward bright light sources (windows) so you can have some control over the overall display of flowers on each individual plant. Orientation of the plant with respect to the light can be adjusted during this time to improve display. Generally, I would recommend that about twice the number of plants you would like to show be brought into the staging area. This allows choices to be made as the show date approaches.
- Start training the inflorescence with stakes early. Inflorescences that have a tendency to wander or bend can be controlled with careful early staking and tying, but ties should be examined daily to ensure the inflorescence is not bending or kinking because of the ties. Sadly, I've lost many spikes because I didn't look at ties daily! On plants with multiple inflorescences, stakes and ties can also be used to separate and place the spikes to show at their best. A plant with several well-spaced spikes looks better than one with all the spikes crowded together.
- A few days before the show, select the plants you want to display. If you've staged quite a few plants, this can be an enjoyable process as you're selecting out the best. The remainder can decorate your house and be enjoyed. Labels should be prepared for these plants. The best labels are easily visible and easy to read, but shouldn't be obtrusive. They need to be large enough to be seen, but should not be glaringly obvious from a distance. A label color I find works well is light green, whereas white labels I find too distracting. Always prepare two labels for each plant – invariably something will happen to mar or smudge a label and it's usually the only one for which you have no duplicate. Filling out entry forms at this time as well will save a lot of time later, and will make the entry process so much easier. Keep a list of the plants you'll be entering so you won't forget to pick up a plant when the show is over.

- The evening before the show, start cleaning the plants you're going to display. With each plant in turn, carefully remove old flower sheaths, old bracts on bulbs, dead growths, or any other unsightly dead material. A paper towel soaked in warm water can work wonders when you're trying to remove dead bracts on bulbs. Just give it a minute or two to soften the bract and it will usually remove easily. Inspect your plant carefully while cleaning to make sure it is free of disease, viruses and pests. You'll be sharing the display bench with other exhibitors, and you want to be a good neighbor.
- To improve the appearance of your leaves, and to clean them, don't use a leaf shine product as it can be detrimental to the leaf surfaces. Instead, use a mixture of warm water with about 10% to 15% skim milk. When the leaves are gently rubbed with a paper towel soaked in this solution, the dust, grime and water spots can be removed and a soft, natural looking shine will remain. Make sure to use a fresh paper towel for each plant, and to wash your hands or change disposable gloves between plants. When cleaning plants it's just too easy to accidentally transport pathogens, so care is needed.
- Dead or unsightly tissue at the ends of leaves should be removed by carefully cutting them with a fresh razor blade. The leaves should be cut to match the natural shape of the leaf as opposed to being cut with a blunt end – it just looks better to the viewer. Use a fresh razor blade with each plant to avoid plant contamination. To keep the edges of the cut leaves looking fresh for as long as possible, apply a small amount of Neosporin along the cut edge.
- After you've transported your plants to the show, and just before entering your plants, do a final check to ensure the spikes are staked just the way you want them, and that the flower show to their maximum potential. Place the label and adjust the label to be easily visible from the front; the volunteers who place your plant on the display tables will try to rotate your plant to look its best, but the label gives them a hint at the way you want the plant placed.
- Finally, just enjoy the show, and I hope you get lots of ribbons - Best of luck, Ken Jacobsen



Left: Slc. Circle of Life  
'Hot Spot'  
Right: C. leopoldii alba  
x Enc. citrina  
brought to December  
Show and Tell table by  
Amy and Ken Jacobsen.



### Member News

*A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Joan Davis, Stella Roccaforte, June Powell, Gene Sandberg, Janet Miller, Del Beumer, Lisa Heirtzler, Jean Lee, Carol Cook, Graham Stryker, Thomas Parks, Joe Bellanti, Terry Boomer, Nick Hughes, Lisa Betts-Lacroix, and Linda Locatelli!*

## Upcoming Events

**January 17 & 18 - POS Show - plant entry and judging January 16.** For show details, please refer to the December issue of The Sheath - <http://penorchidsoc.org/newsletters/2008-12.pdf>. Show and sale hours are from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM both days. Plant entry is from 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM on January 16. Everyone is welcome to enter orchids. For more information please contact Sue Rose at 650-322-9853.

**January 24-25 - Santa Cruz Society Show**, Soquel High School, 401 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA. Contact: Dr. Frank Drake, P O Box 789, Aptos, CA 95001; (831) 688-4921;

**February 7-8 - Sonoma County Orchid Society Show**, Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA. Contact: Tony Mininno, 3977 Doc's Ranch Rd., Occidental, CA

2009

**Sonoma County Orchid Society  
Annual Spring Show and Sale**

*"The Love and Legend of Orchids"*



*Sonoma County Orchid Society*

invites you to our

**Annual Spring Show**

**Orchid Show & Sale**

**February 7-8, 2009**

**Sat 10am - 5pm**

**Sun 10am - 4pm**

**Admission \$7**

[www.sonomaorchids.com](http://www.sonomaorchids.com)

**Santa Rosa Veterans Building**

1351 Maple Ave, Santa Rosa, CA (across from the Fairgrounds)

### Congratulations!

Peninsula Orchid Society Members AOS Awards earned July - December 2008 - Awarded at Judging Centers in Oakland and San Francisco (photos and judges comments may be seen at <http://www.aospacificcentral.org/> Not listed here are awards earned at area orchid shows. Those may also be found at the AOS Pacific Central Web Site.)

7/1/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco

**Amy and Ken Jacobsen** Oestlundia (Encyclia) cyanocolumna 'Winston' CCM 84

7/21/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - Oakland

**Amy and Ken Jacobsen** Slc. Streeter's Doll 'Amy' HCC 76

8/5/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco

**Golden Gate Orchids** Den. cuthbertsonii 'Red Gem' AM 88

**Golden Gate Orchids** Den. cuthbertsonii 'Ruby' AM 82

10/7/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco

**Amy and Ken Jacobsen** C. Heathii 'Winston' (C. loddigesii x C. walkeriana) AM 81

**Trudy Hadler** Masd. OBrien's Passion 'McCracken' (Masd. Annette Hall x Masd. coccinea v. alba) HCC 78

10/20/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - Oakland

**Amy and Ken Jacobsen** Blc. Hawaiian Blush 'Winston' AM 80

12/2/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco

**Japheth Ko** Blc. Jungle Treasure 'Paseo del Roble' (Blc. Love Sound x Lc. Jungle Elf) HCC 75

12/15/08 - Pacific Central Judging Center - Oakland

**Amy and Ken Jacobsen** Slc. Circle of Life 'Finery' (Lc. Culminant x Soph. coccinea) HCC 75

HCC - Highly Commended Certificate; AM - Award of Merit; CHM - Certificate of Cultural Merit; CBR - Certificate of Botanical Recognition; CCM - Certificate of Cultural Merit.

You may submit your orchids or your cut flowers for AOS judging at the San Francisco Pacific Central Judging Center in the S.F. County Fair Building/Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park at 9th and Lincoln between 6 and 7 PM on the first Tuesday of each month. This is held in conjunction with the meetings of the S.F.O.S.

You may submit your orchids or your cut flowers for AOS judging at the Oakland Pacific Central Judging Center in the Lakeside Garden Center by Lake Merritt, 666 Bellevue Dr. between 6 and 7 PM on the third Monday of each month. This is held in conjunction with the meetings of the O.S.C.

There is no charge to have your orchids considered for an award. There is a nominal charge if your orchid wins an award. You do not need to be an AOS member to win an award.

<http://www.aospacificcentral.org/pac2.html>



Left: *V. sanderiana*  
Angelic Nguyen

Right:  
*Cochleanthes amazonica*  
Chaunie Langland



*Paph. delenatii* 'In Chasm' x *delenatii* 'Cherry' Annie and Mike Green



Masd. Redwing (*coccinea* x *infracta*)  
Mary and Gerardus Staal



*Cym.* name unknown Jackie Becker



*Phrag. Grouville* (Eric Young x Hanne Popow)  
Sharon Langan



*L. anceps* 'Huong' HCC/AOS Anna Chai



Milt. Hajime Ono x Robert Jackson Greg Corrales



*Ida grandis* (Andean S.A.) Dan Newman



*Haraella retrocalla* Ginette Sanchou



Blc. Z (or 7?) 'Cloud Forest' (Modesty x Bouton D'Or) Kreg Martin



Masd. Joy Eclstrom 'Margaret's' (racemose x vetchiane) Terry Boomer

### Unclassifieds

Members may advertise orchid related items. The ad is free. E-mail your ad to [the\\_sheath\\_editor@earthlink.net](mailto:the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net) or mail to 878 Cashew Way, Fremont, CA 94536. Be sure to include your name and phone number. Ads must be received by the 1st of the month to be included that month's newsletter.

---

### January Board Meeting

The January Board meeting will be held on Wednesday the 14th at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Ken Jacobsen, 195 Exeter Ave, San Carlos. The board meetings are open to all members and we'd like to encourage you to attend. If you have any issue that you'd like brought to the board, but cannot attend, you can call any board member and they will present your issue for you.

---

### Dues due in February

The next issue of *The Sheath* will have a membership renewal form. You may mail it in or you may bring it to the February meeting. Of course, we will have forms at the February and March meetings!

### 2009 Board of Directors/Chairpersons

*President:* Ken Jacobsen 650-508-8308

*Vice President:* Mike Rector 650-366-3401

*Treasurer:* Trudy Hadler 650-483-1277

*Rec. Secretary:* Rebecca Grubbs 650-560-9037

*Corr. Secretary:* Judy Evans 650-593-8625

*Ways & Means CP:* Paul Reeve 650-366-3251

*Membership CP:* Chaunie Langland

*Director at Large:* Carol Zoltowski 415-657-3222

*Director at Large:* Brett Francis 650-369-2329

*Director at Large:* Mary Gerritsen 650-348-6492

*Director at Large:* Randall Takemoto-Hambleton 408-777-8964

*AOS Rep:* Dennis Olivas 925-969-1246

*Librarian:* Rex Castell 650-576-4637

*Refreshment Chairpersons:* Rebecca Grubbs 650-560-9037 & Olga Ostrovsky 650-631-0218

*Sheath Editor:* Chaunie Langland 510-494-8850 [the\\_sheath\\_editor@earthlink.net](mailto:the_sheath_editor@earthlink.net)

*Sheath Snail Mail Co-ordinator:* Susan Tong

*Accountant:* Sue Rose 650-322-9853

*Web Editor:* Fred Cox 650-321-3542

Website address: <http://penorchidsoc.org>

Mailing Address: P.O.Box 6894

San Mateo, CA 94403-6894



*Thank you to everyone who has  
volunteered to help at the show!!*

*No POS meeting this month - but  
you may attend the meeting of the  
Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers on  
January 23 at the San Mateo  
Garden Center*

*Peninsula Orchid Society  
The Sheath  
Chaunie Langland, Editor  
878 Cashew Way  
Fremont, CA 94536*