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# The Sheath

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## EDITOR'S CORNER

This being my first edition, I'm going ahead with the disclaimers right up front (☺ and all...).

The past three weeks have found me drinking a lot of tea. Not hemlock tea, as I've been much tempted, but rather, Humili Tea. I do, in fact, try to be humble at least once a year, since I'm told it's good for one's character. This, my first attempt of "The Sheath" has fulfilled my humility quota to the year 2200 or so.

Dan Williamson - and Chaunie before him – did an incredible job with this task, and left some big, um, sheaths to fill. When I timidly agreed to try my hand at it, I'm not sure exactly what kind of tea I had been consuming, but it definitely wasn't Clari Tea. After all, **reading** Chaunie's and Dan's newsletters was so pleasant and effortless, so...sure I thought, compile some general info, add some nice pictures and voila!

What follows is the result. Likely received by you 15 minutes before the meeting: halting and fraught with errors and omissions, for which I can only beg forgiveness, and assure you they weren't deliberate. The crisis hotlines which have tirelessly supported me through this process assure me that "it gets better". I humbly (yes) ask you to also take faith in that mantra.

There's also a concept I'd like to reinforce: this isn't "my" newsletter – it's "our" newsletter. Many people did provide information and announcements to be included. You can also contribute by sending information, announcements, news and pictures (suggestion/request – take and submit pics from meetings and events, please provide plant names.) Thanks for your patience and support while my skills with this project take root, and I work my way to once again drinking coffee.

Your humble editor,

*~Dan Alwear*

## AUGUST MEETING

Date: August 22

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 Hwy 92, turn South.

The Garden Center is located between 26th and 28th Avenues.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 6894, San Mateo, CA 94403-6894

### Skill Session

**Watering:** by Chaunie Langland

**Location:** The Patio

(if too cold, in Rose Room)

## **SPEAKER: Jacob Knecht on "Angraecoid Culture"**

Jacob has been mesmerized by plants for as long as he can remember. His passion for orchids species began at age 11. He has worked in landscape architecture, wholesale and retail nursery operations and is now pursuing his dream of studying for a career in botany with a focus in conservation and habitat restoration.

Over the last 20 years he has grown orchids in many different growing environments and set-ups-- most of these he designed and constructed himself. His favorite group of orchids is angraecoids. In addition, Jacob has an abiding love for many other plant families, including bulbs, palms, and cycads.

Find more information about/from Jacob and many pictures by him online. A great starting place is

<https://www.flickr.com/people/morabeza79/>

## OPPORTUNITY TABLE: Donated by Dan Williamson

Many of you know that Dan Williams has moved to the East Coast with his family; and has generously donated about 30 plants from his collection to POS. These plants will be included in our Opportunity Table raffle for the August 22 meeting. Thank you Dan!

Plants have these labels:

Oncidium maculatum (2 each)  
 Rhyncholaeliocattleya 'Whisky River' (2 each)  
 Cattleya 'Maui Christmas'  
 Jackfowlieara Perfect Pair' (2 each)  
 Cattleya trianae 'A.C. Burrage' AM/AOS  
 Dendrobium Specio-Kingianum  
 Caulaelia 'Mizoguchi Princess Kiko'  
 Brassia wagneri  
 Cymbidium Crackerjack 'Midnight Magic' AM/AOS AD/CSA  
 Cymbidium Lovely Nymph 'Stirling' 4n (3 each)  
 Rhyncholaeliocattleya Mary Ann McCandless'  
 Rhyncattleanthe Cherry Suisse 'Kawaii' (2 each)  
 Paphiopedilum Hiro Julie  
 Rhyncholaeliocattley Goldenzelle 'Summer'  
 Rhyncholaeliocattleya Annie Zilius  
 Cymbidium Super Freak 'Stirling'  
 Jackfowlieara Perfect Pair  
 Rhyncholaeliocattleya Memoria Crispin Rosales 'Pine Knot'  
 Phalaenopsis (Sogo Leaves x Sara Lee)  
 Phalaenopsis Martha Dolge 'Mendenhall'  
 Paphiopedilum (Green Lantern x farrianum 'Halleluja')  
 Cattleya hybrid (4 each)  
 Blc. George King 'Serendipity' AM/AOS

## Pix from prior meeting

**Debra Atwood**, of Napa Valley Orchids shared her insights and musings on potting practices. As always, her advice drew on real-life, “been there – done that” experiences, and generated much lively dialogue. The “to save or not to save” example drew impassioned audience participation.

Some great points Debra made were:

- Carefully evaluate whether plants are *realistically* salvageable
- Rootless plants generally have a low success factor
- Weak plants are prime targets for pests and disease
- Don't be fooled by the “death flowers” plants produce as their last gasp before failing
- When dividing plants, identify and save pseudobulbs that “own” the live roots
- Repot when the plant is in growth mode (i.e. new roots, shoots, etc.)
- **Zinger:** “It takes a PhD to spell backwards” (in creating the name “Sedirea”)





Potinara Hawaiian Charisma 'Hawaii'  
Janusz Warszawski



Paph Druid Spring  
(primulinum 'Lunar Glow' x  
Druyi 'Bold Stripe')



Aerg. Luteo Alba Rhodosticta  
Rosalie Dedo



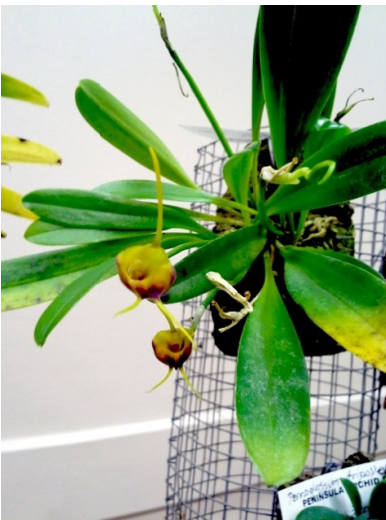
Oncidium Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl' HCC/AOS  
X Oda. Nichitei Sunrise HCC/AOS  
Janusz Warszawski



Vanda Fuchs Golden Leopard  
(Vanda Suksamran Spots  
x Vanda Golden Spots)  
Chaunie Langland



Catasetum (?) Sung Lee



Masdevallia infracta Kathy Parker



Stenia Vasquezii Kathy Parker



C. Mini Purple 'Leo' Sharon Langan



Restrepia Iris Luer - Kathy Parker



Den. Lowesii – Neal Winslow



Angraecum magdalenae  
Sharon Langan



Oncidium Leuchochilum  
Neal Winslow



Rhynchosele ehrenbergii  
Neal Winslow



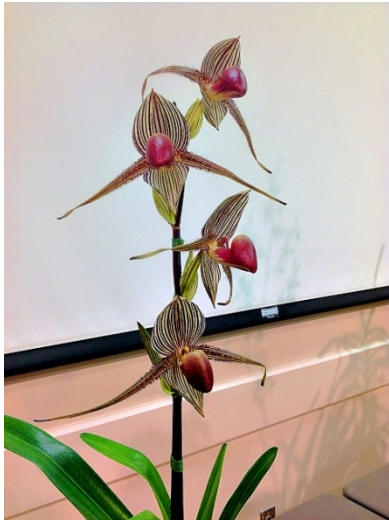
Masdevallia carruthersiana Kathy Parker



Phael. Cornu-cervi v chattaladae Chaunie Langland



Cattleya Purpurata var carnea 'Josie's Choice' (from \_\_\_?)



Paph. Rothschildianum (from ?)



All the king's horsemen...



Judging

**AOS WARDS**

Paph. Helenae - Helen Michel



C. loddigesii 'Streeter's Alba' - Amy Chung

**Thanks for the refreshments!**

Susan Tong, Janus, Trudy, Christina Holloway, Dennis O., Sharon

**August Birthdays**

Zachary Coney, Scott Dallas, Susan Hamilton, Janet Rector, Ginette Sanchou, Jeff Trimble

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****POS Annual Auction****DATE: Saturday September 27th from 1:30 to 5:00pm at the San Mateo Garden Center.**

The auction is always fun and is a wonderful opportunity to buy some great plants that are not otherwise available. As usual, for the auction to be a success we will need volunteers to step up and help out.

**We need help in the following areas:****Plant Check-in** (2 people) 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**Hospitality** (2) - answer questions on how things work**Please contact Mike Drilling at [mike.drilling@gmail.com](mailto:mike.drilling@gmail.com) to volunteer or to ask questions about volunteering.**

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, and each member may offer no more than 10 items for sale for his/her own account. Donations are unlimited.

Items must be presented for check-in by 1:00 PM - including pre-registered plants and items. No exceptions. Items must 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.

Continued...

**POS Annual Auction** (Cont'd.)

Plants should be established and must be disease and insect free. Please bring only plants that you would bid on. All plants must be listed on the Auction Entry Form and have a tag similar to the one on page two of the Auction Entry Form. It would be a good idea to keep a copy of the Auction Entry Form. The POS reserves the right to refuse any plant or other item offered for auction.

**NOTE:** Auction documents are attached in a separate file.

**ALSO:** Checks from the auction (to sellers) will go out during the end of October, due to processing time needed.

**Open Greenhouse!**

On **Saturday, September 20 from 10:00 AM until 3:30 PM**, Ken and Amy Jacobsen, together with Pierre Pujol, will have an orchid sale at their greenhouse. There will be divisions of many quality exhibition cymbidiums and perhaps even some unbloomed seedlings. Some of these are Australian plants imported for exhibition and breeding, while others are first release divisions of very select plants raised from seed. Amy is also relenting and (perhaps) now willing to part with some of her cattleya, anceps and masdevallia divisions, many highly prized and awarded!

The greenhouse is in the T&E Pastorino complex on Hwy 92 (San Mateo Rd) about 1.5 miles East of Hwy 1 in Half Moon Bay at 12511 San Mateo Rd. Note that this is after Pastorino Farms and Lemos farm as you head west, so don't get confused by the similar sounding name. The best way to enter is from the East end of the property through a large portal near the Teak shop and the 'Orchids for Sale' business. Drive on a dirt road between these two businesses to the back of the property where you'll see a small parking area, or park up at the front of the property where there's plenty of space and walk to our greenhouse. (Simple directions: Pastorino Greenhouses on the left after Lemos farm – we're just behind the 'Orchids for Sale' business. If you get lost, Ken's mobile number is 650.704.5239 and Pierre's is 650.255.9012).

Please do not arrive at the greenhouse before 10:00 AM! We won't be ready for you until then, and there will be no presales.





**Brookside Orchids announces its September 2014**

## **OPEN HOUSE**

**Saturday, September 20 - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**& Sunday, September 21 - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

- COME AND SEE OUR NEW SHOWROOM
- TAKE A NURSERY TOUR
- WATCH A RE-POTTING DEMONSTRATION  
(10:00 AM & 2:00 PM Saturday)
- ASK YOUR PLANT CULTURE QUESTIONS
- BUY SEEDLINGS
- SELECT FROM OUR "DIVISIONS BENCH" AT CLEARANCE PRICES
- 10% DISCOUNT ON PLANTS AND SUPPLIES  
(clearance divisions not included)
- ADMISSION FREE