

# THE SHEATH

P.O. Box 6894, San Mateo, CA 94403-6894 • penorchidsoc.org

## March General Meeting

Date: March 23, 2018  
Time: Doors open at 7:00PM  
No skill session this month.  
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.

## This Month's Speaker: Dennis Olivas Topic: Growing Vandas in the Bay Area

Dennis Olivas will talk to us about growing Vandas in the Bay Area and about the different types of Vandas. Some of you may think we can't grow them here - but we can. Some of them can even be grown outdoors. Dennis will also supply this month's opportunity table.

Dennis Olivas was born on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. As a lad, he helped his mom grow her orchids and got hooked. When he joined the Future Farmers of America, his project was raising and selling these beautiful and exotic plants. In 1980 he moved to the mainland and swore off the orchid family - but not for long - as he was introduced to Rod McLellan's Acres of Orchids. From there his whole life became one downward spiral. First he filled his home with upwards of 6,000 plants. Later he leased a greenhouse space for his ever-burgeoning orchid collection. Since he's a glutton for punishment, his collection grew, overflowing the 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse in Half Moon Bay (and now in Daly City). Dennis has been President of the Peninsula Orchid Society, San Francisco Orchid



Society, Diablo View Orchid Society, and the Santa Cruz Orchid Society. He is an accredited judge of the American Orchid Society. Dennis belongs to more than 14 orchid societies and tries to assist them whenever possible.

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## Member News

### March Birthdays

Frank Blomquist, Nancy Francis, Diana Gross, Evelyn Jones, C. Todd Kennedy, Dr. Bob Kradjian, Margery Mayer, Su McMurtry, Anna Margarita Quiroz, Paul Reeve, Roey Shaviv, Isis Trenchard, Carol Zoltowski

### New members:

Miva Wong  
Dr. Bob Kradjian

### Membership Renewals:

Annual membership dues are due in January; they can be paid by check, cash or credit card at our monthly meetings, on the website <http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html> using Paypal, or mailed to the address provided in the 2018 Membership Renewal form, attached to this Newsletter. **Please note the new fee scheduled for 2018. If paying by check, make it payable to POS.**

Remember, if you refer a new member, your dues are half price, and if you refer two new members your dues are free for a year! New referrals must not be current members of the POS and must mention your (current member's) name for you to get your discount (or refund).

Please update your contact information, especially email addresses (If there are no changes to the contact information, there is no need to fill out the form).

As an incentive to renew on time, POS is again providing free Garden Pruners to everyone who renews no later than the March meeting; **THIS MEANS NOW**. All new members for 2018 are eligible for the free pruners throughout the year.


## CONTACT INFORMATION

### The POS Board of Directors

President:	Eric Levenson	eric_levenson@pacbell.net
Vice President:	Chaunie Langland	chaunie.langland@earthlink.net
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Director at Large:	Abraham Wang	menicx@gmail.com
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Find us on Facebook and Instagram:

 Peninsula Orchid Society of San Mateo  
 @peninsulaorchidsociety

## Upcoming Orchid Events

**March 31 - April 1, 2018**

**Sonoma County Orchid Society's Annual Show & Sale "Rainbow of Orchids"**

Sat: 10am - 5pm; Sunday 10am - 4pm

Santa Rosa Veterans Building (across from the Fairgrounds)

1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA

Admission: \$8

For more information: [www.sonomaorchids.com](http://www.sonomaorchids.com)

**April 14 - 15, 2018**

**Sacramento Orchid Society Show "The World of Orchids"**

Sat: 10am - 5pm; Sunday 10am - 5pm

Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St., Sacramento, CA.

Judging is being held on April 14, 2018 at 9:00 AM.

<http://sacramentoorchids.org/2018-orchid-show/>

**April 14 - 15, 2018**

**Five Cities Orchid Society Central Coast Orchid Show "Sea of Orchids"**

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

South County Regional Center, 800 W Branch St., Arroyo Grande, CA.

Judging is being held on April 13, 2018 at 1:00 PM.

General Admission is \$6 - Children 12 and under are free

**April 22-23, 2018**

Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Show & Sale.

1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Redwood City, CA.

Set-Up and Plant entry Friday 10AM – 6PM; CSA and AOS judging at 7PM. Show and Sale open to the public Saturday and Sunday 10AM to 4PM.

For more information contact: Sylvia Darr, Show Chair - [syldarr@gmail.com](mailto:syldarr@gmail.com)

**May 12 - 13, 2018**

Orchid Society of California "Mothers' Day Weekend Orchid Show & Sale 2018"

Lakeside Park Garden Center Nursery, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, CA.

Judging is being held on May 12, 2018 at 9:00 AM.



*Sonoma County Orchid Society*  
PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE  
"RAINBOW OF ORCHIDS"



**March 31 - April 1, 2018**  
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm  
Sunday 10 am - 4 pm  
Admission \$8.00

Santa Rosa Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA  
(Across from the Fairgrounds) [www.sonomaorchids.com](http://www.sonomaorchids.com)

Mother's Day  
Weekend  
**ORCHID SHOW & SALE**  
May 12 & 13, 2018 10AM-5PM



Presented by the  
**ORCHID SOCIETY  
OF CALIFORNIA**

Lakeside Park Garden Center  
• just past Fairyland •  
666 Bellevue Ave.  
Oakland, CA 94610

FREE ADMISSION Orchid Displays Orchids for sale Culture sessions Raffles

[www.orchidsocietyofca.org](http://www.orchidsocietyofca.org)

*Reprinted from the AOS Beginner's Newsletter*

### Spring Has Sprung

Today is the first day of spring and for orchid growers, that means our orchids will be commencing their annual growth cycle soon. Depending on where you live, some plants may be in growth already. As we head toward summer we will be practicing a different culture regime for our orchids. We want to optimize their growth as much as possible during the warm part of the year. The most important task we associate with spring is repotting our plants. I often hear of a novice buying an orchid and immediately repotting it regardless of the time of year. That is not sound practice. The best, and safest time to repot an orchid is in the springtime and there are good reasons why. Lengthening days continue to accelerate plant growth through the summer solstice. With some species, growth can be explosive at this time of year. Orchids that receive ample food and water, and the proper temperatures and light for their type, can quickly fill a pot with roots. The more roots, the better a plant can utilize the nutrients it receives. This rapid growth also insures that newly potted orchids will quickly establish themselves in the fresh medium. All of this adds up to a strong, healthy plant capable of producing abundant blooms.



While there are exceptions, for most orchids it is a safe bet to repot in the spring. It is a good idea to confirm that your orchids are indeed beginning their growth cycle. Monopodial and sympodial orchids should both have some active, green root tips on mature roots. Sympodial orchids should have a cluster of new roots starting from the base of the newest pseudobulb and may or may not have a new pseudobulb starting. The longer the new roots are the easier it is to accidentally break them so try to repot plants when these roots are not much more than a half-inch long. Soaking a plant in a bucket of room temperature water will make old roots more pliable and easier to remove from the pot. This is especially helpful with monopodial orchids like *Phalaenopsis*. Repotting orchids is fairly straightforward and once you get the hang of it, it becomes an enjoyable part of the

hobby. There are a few rules to remember...

- Always sterilize cutting tools between plants to avoid the spread of disease. A minute or two under a torch flame will suffice.

- Remove old medium and dead roots. Leafless backbulbs may be removed from sympodial orchids.
- Use fresh, clean media and pots, do not recycle media, and reuse pots only if they have been sterilized.
- Potting time is a good time to examine plants for any pests that might be hiding. Spring cleaning applies to orchids too! Remove any old, dried sheaths with a toothbrush dipped in 70% isopropyl alcohol. Also remove any dead leaves or pseudobulbs.
- Make sure that all of the needed materials are at hand, that includes assorted pots, enough of your preferred media, rhizome clips and/or bamboo or wire stakes and don't forget nametags!
- If you pot them correctly, most orchids only need to be repotted every second or third year. Some, like phalaenopsis and catasetums appreciate fresh medium every year.

Greg Allikas

March 2012

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2018 Peninsula Orchid Society  
Membership Application or Renewal

Write checks payable to: POS  
Mail to: Janusz Warszawski – POS 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 \$20.00                       Additional Member same household \$10.00  
 Payments can be made by Paypal on POS website [penorchidsoc.org/membership.html](http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html)

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

Date paid \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. and amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Receipt No. \_\_\_\_\_ Cash Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
Paypal date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

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