

The Sheath

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

November General Meeting

Date: November 22, 2019

Time: Doors open at 7:00PM

Skill session in the Rose Room, 7:05pm

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.

Skill session: Have Fun Entering Your Orchids in the Show! 7:05pm in the Rose Room

Are you under the (mistaken) impression that the experienced orchid exhibitors waltz out to their growing area and fill up their cars with orchids from among their always perfectly groomed and grown plants? Because that is not how it is done.

Attend this month's skill session with Chaunie in the Rose Room at 7:05 to and learn how with a few minutes of effort you can spiffy-up your orchids so you can proudly enter them in our January 25 - 26 show. The success of the show depends on everyone, beginner to advanced grower, entering their lovely orchids for attendees to enjoy. You too can confidently enter your plants and enjoy seeing them gleaming under the show lights.



November Program

Speaker: Sergio Garcia

Topic: Cattleya labiata

When I was just a little boy, 7 or 8 years old, my father and I were suddenly hooked on orchids. At a home and garden show we saw a *Catasetum pileatum* and were shocked by its beauty. When we asked people where to buy that plant, we were pointed to the orchid booth of one of the most important and respected orchid growers in Brazil's orchid history – Mr. Heitor Gloeden. Soon after that initial contact, he took us under his wing and taught us about orchids.

As a native of São Paulo, I quickly learned about many orchid species. Those that I was first in touch with are still my favorites: *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, *Sophranitis*, *Oncidium*, *Paphiopedilum* and *Vanda*. I love all orchids,

but these are the ones that have continued to populate my daydreams, even when I was working on the options trading floor at the Pacific Stock Exchange!

My father and I learned about orchids together, so orchid growing became a partnership with him. Today my dad is 89 years old, and we still spend hours discussing possible crossings, preferred cultivars and plants that we still "need" to add to our respective collections. Still living in Brazil, he cultivates beautiful orchids there, while I pursue my hobby here in Northern California. I love it here. I immigrated in 1989 to Ohio. After college, I moved to California where I put down roots, made friends, and began cultivating orchids.

Dinner with the speaker!



A no-host dinner with the speaker will take place at California Pizza in the Hillsdale Mall at 5:45 PM. (Haven't been to California Pizza? They serve many things besides pizza!) Please let Chen-Hao know if you plan to attend:

Chinterpreter@hotmail.com

Member News



November Birthdays

Mimi Campbell, Sylvia Darr, Sonnie Randall-Jackson, Chaunie Langland, Elizabeth Lasensky, Ben Merfalen, Tom Pickford, Mike Rector, Frank Toyosaki, Jiann Sheng Toyosaki, Bill Weaver. Happy birthday!

Save the date! Our 2020 Show and Sale will be on January 25-26!

Orchiata bark and other supplies by Janusz

This year we can again order Orchiata bark by combining the order with Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers (courtesy of Carol Armendariz). The bark comes in 40 liter bags (approx. 10 gal) and can be ordered in 5 sizes: Precision (1/8-1/4 inch), Classic (1/4-3/8), Power (3/8-1/2), Power+ (1/2-3/4) and Super (1 inch). Last year we paid \$26/bag, a substantial discount from retail prices. My understanding is that the order will be placed in January 2020, for delivery in February-March. Carol will also be ordering coconut husk and Perlite. Coconut husk is \$15-\$16. Perlite #3 is \$26 and #4 is \$28.00, for a 4 c.f. bag. We may also be able to get new virus test kits, at \$150 per kit. The new kit contains 50 test strips, which is half the price per test when compared to the kits used previously.

I already started a list at the October meeting and will be circulating it again at the November meeting, or you can contact me by email with your requirements. I will consolidate the list and forward it to Carol. The orders need to be picked up at Carol's house in Monte Sereno, or we can talk about combining pickups as the time comes. If there are any changes in dates, I will communicate with the people ordering.

Member survey results

Chaunie has provided a summary of the online survey results at the end of this newsletter.

Big Changes to the Ribbon Judging System at the POS show

by Chaunie Langland

I, as ribbon and trophy judging chair, have decided to change some of the show rules this year.

Sue Rose and I have been discussing for several years the issue of having almost every exhibitor in the Advanced level and how it is too easy to get moved up. Under current and long standing rules a single plant may earn from 0 to five points at one show. The number of points earned that require an exhibitor to move up from Novice to Intermediate can be done with one entry, and as the points are cumulative that exhibitor is already on their way being moved into advanced. That exhibitor may have picked up more points with other plants entered that year. also This is not fair to the exhibitor and not the intent of the system which was written in a very different time where there were many more members entering the show.

Sue compiled that data we have beginning in 2008, the year we went digital, which is available in the newsletters available on our website. This gave us a general idea of what might be more fair to exhibitors and also allow us to have some exciting competition in Novice and Intermediate. This is also the basis that I have used to determine our active members level for the 2020 show. I will send each of you an email with your level. You may choose to enter at a higher level, as only you know your true total points from participating in shows prior to 2008 and points acquired at other AOS affiliated society shows.

New rules: This is a summary of the changes. The complete show rules will be available in the December Sheath.

- Each entered orchid can only accumulate one point towards the exhibitor's advancement no matter how many awards it earns at a show in one year.
- Points accumulated from 2008 through 2019 will be credited to the exhibitor, but they will be counted under the previous method. Perpetual trophies won during that period will also be credited to the exhibitor. Points earned at other AOS affiliate shows should also be counted by the exhibitor under the first rule method.
- An exhibitor may elect to move up to another level at their own discretion, but once they have done so they may not move back down at future shows.
- Exhibitors who board their plants and have them professionally cared for will no longer be required to show at the Open level and may choose their level to start at this year.
- When a Novice exhibitor has accumulated ten points AND has won one of the perpetual trophies they are required to move to Intermediate level. They may continue at Novice after accumulating ten or more points if they have not won a perpetual trophy.
- When an Intermediate exhibitor has accumulated ten Intermediate level points AND has won one of the perpetual trophies they are required to move to Advanced level. They may continue at Intermediate after accumulating ten or more points if they have not won a perpetual trophy. A perpetual trophy won at Novice level will count as the required perpetual trophy. No points will be carried over from Novice, the Intermediate exhibitor will start with a clean slate.
- All certified AOS judges and CSA judges must show in either Advanced or Open levels. Student judges may show at the level appropriate for the previous show experience.

Meeting Refreshments



Thank you to these members that brought refreshments to the October meeting: Trudy Hadler, Helena Wee, Frank Toyosaki, Abraham Wang, Pauline Wong, Lisa Pace, Chen-Hao Hsu, Rex Castell, Janusz Warszawski

If you bring refreshments for the November meeting, please put your name on the sign-up sheet provided. You will receive 5 free raffle tickets prior to the draw.

All POS members are also expected to help out with refreshments, setup and cleanup at monthly meetings based upon the first letter of your last name. Please bring snacks such as baked goods, nuts, fruit or veggie sticks, crackers & cheese for the next meeting. A jar/can of nuts, a pound or two of fruit (dried or fresh) or cheese, a dozen cookies, or a box or two of crackers is an appropriate amount. **And everyone who brings snacks should remember to ask the folks at the opportunity table for an extra opportunity table ticket, regardless of your last name!**

Refreshment Calendar:

Jan: A - B

Feb: C

Mar: D - G

Apr: H - J

May: K

Jun: L

Jul: M - Q

Aug: P - Q

Sep: R

Oct: S - V

Nov: W - Z



Dec Potluck: Everyone



CONTACT INFORMATION

President:	Eric Levenson	eric_levenson@pacbell.net
Vice President:	Chen-Hao Hsu	Chinterpreter@hotmail.com
Recording Secretary:	George Spangler	georges@iaspanglers.net
Corresponding Secretary:	Helena Wee	shhwee@sbcglobal.net
Membership:	Chaunie Langland	chaunie.langland@earthlink.net
Treasurer:	Janusz Warszawski	janwar@sbcglobal.net
Ways & Means:	Tom Mudge	tjmudge@yahoo.com
Director at Large:	Mike Rector	mrector@verizon.net
Director at Large:	Abraham Wang	menicx@gmail.com
Director at Large:	Sue Rose	
AOS Representative:	Chaunie Langland	chaunie.langland@earthlink.net
Refreshments:	OPEN	
Sheath Editor:	Isis Trenchard	ijtrenchard@gmail.com
Web Editor:	Chaunie Langland	chaunie.langland@earthlink.net
Instagram/Twitter	Isis Trenchard	ijtrenchard@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook and Instagram:

 [Peninsula Orchid Society of San Mateo](https://www.facebook.com/PeninsulaOrchidSocietyofSanMateo)
 [@peninsulaorchidsociety](https://www.instagram.com/peninsulaorchidsociety)

Upcoming Orchid Events

January 25-26, 2020

Peninsula Orchid Society Show and Sale
 Community Activities Building
 1400 Roosevelt Ave, Redwood City

February 21 – 23, 2020

Pacific Orchid Expo – “Orchids in Focus”
 County Fair Building ‘Hall of Flowers’, 9th Ave. at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
 10:00am-5:00pm

March 13-15, 2020

Santa Barbara Orchid Show “A world of adventure”
 Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara, CA
 9:00am-5:00pm

Member Survey Results

I sent out a survey in October using Survey Monkey. The response rate was pretty good. Some of you may have missed this if it went into your spam folder. Forty-nine members responded to the survey I sent out about a variety of topics. I used the free version of Survey Monkey so I was limited to ten questions instead of my original seventeen. Here are the results from the survey.

1. Would you prefer that the meeting time remain on Friday? (49 people answered this question)

49% - stick with Friday

51% - a different day:

2% Monday

8% Tuesday

10% Wednesday

14% Thursday

16% Saturday

0% Sunday

2. Currently our meetings begin at 7:45 PM. Should we start our meetings earlier? (49 people answered this question)

37% - stick with 7:45

46% - start at 7:00 PM

4% - start at 6:00 PM

12% - daytime would be better

3. Would you be more likely to enter plants in the show if the show were held a different month than January? (41 people answered this question)

71% - January is good for me

20% - May or June would be better

5% - July or August would be better

5% - September or October would be better

4. If you have not entered plants in our show, why? (32 people answered this question)

50% - I do not feel my orchids are good enough

9% - I do not have time to prepare my plants for the show

3% - inconvenient entry time

3% - afraid of damage to orchids

34% - no orchids in bloom at the end of January

5. Would you rather pay higher membership dues (around \$80) and not have a show?
(41 people answered this question)

4% - yes

96% - no

6. If you have not served on the board, what prevents you from offering to do so?
(33 people answered this question)

73% - too busy

9% - too shy

18% - no one has asked me directly

0% - I've offered and not been added to the slate

0% - I don't really care if the society disappears

7. Do you have any suggestions for activities you would like to see the society offer?
(14 people answered this question)

Repotting clinic, bus tour, have a time to visit members greenhouses and much more!

Thank you!

8. Should the society quit offering coffee and tea at the meetings to make clean-up easier? (41 people answered this question)

32% - yes

68% - no

9. What types of speaker topics do you enjoy most? (44 people answered this question)

75% - orchid culture

43% - growing areas

39% - travel to see orchids in-situ

25% - specific genus

16% - other

10. Would you prefer that POS have a one day sale in place of the auction? (42 people answered this question)

40% - yes

33% - no

26% - yes, but on a regular meeting night

About the survey: Finding the potentially most useful questions was difficult. Even more difficult was supplying multiple choice answers that might actually be valid. If I ask you if your favorite color is blue or brown and your favorite color is burgundy, well, how can you answer this one? That of course is the technique used on most political surveys, but I was not trying to skew the responses here.

Second, on questions that had lower response rate, they did not apply to people answering the survey. (e.g. past and current board members could not respond to what keeps you from serving on the board.)

I appreciate the time so many people took to respond to this survey. It was very helpful. Also, some people sent me emails in response which was even more helpful! All of you have ideas, even people who have only been to one meeting, but you don't always realize what your ideas are until something gets you started thinking about them.

Thank you,
Chaunie