

THE SHEATH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY



VIRTUAL GREENHOUSE TOURS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Our February meeting will take us on virtual greenhouse tours! We will be visiting members greenhouses and other growing spaces via video and slide shows.

- Margery Mayor - very small outdoor greenhouse (slide show)
- Mike Rector - medium size heated home greenhouse (video),
- Bill Weaver - large unheated commercial size greenhouse (video)
- Janusz Warszawski - outdoor growing areas (slide show)
- Chaunie Langland - medium-small heated home greenhouse (video)
- Ken Jacobsen - large unheated commercial size greenhouse.

We will have time for a few questions at the end of each presentation, but recommend that you contact the person in question after the meeting if we don't get to your question!

Our raffle plants will be coming from Ken.

MEETING DETAILS

6:45pm Meeting sign in opens
 7:00pm Announcements
 7:10pm Show and Tell
 7:40pm Green house tours
 9:00pm Plant giveaway

Check your email for the Zoom link.

REMINDER

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KEN JACOBSEN

We've successfully made it through January, and as the days are starting to stretch, our plants are coming out of their winter rest and starting their spring growing cycle. Our winter blooming species and hybrids should be at about their maximum blooming right now, with many of the spring bloomers showing spikes with the promise of great displays in a month or two.

Since we were not able to have a show this January and visiting the growing areas of other members in person is difficult while this pandemic continues, our Vice President Chaunie Langland came up with a truly inspired idea – virtual greenhouse tours! For many of us, this may provide the chance to see some of the plants and flowers we're missing from not having shows, all in the comfort and safety of our own homes. This is the first time we're attempting something quite like this. There's a lot of imagery to gather, categorize and talk about. I'm sure there will be some minor areas where we can improve in the future, but this could well become a great addition to our monthly skill sessions, or supplement the show and tell table.

Don't forget that if you've renewed your POS membership for 2021, we have a membership gift plant for you (one per membership regardless of membership type). These are at my greenhouse growing area in Half Moon Bay, and once your membership is confirmed by our membership director, please feel free to make arrangements to pick up your plant. We had thought of having a competition with these *Cattleya* seedlings, but they're bigger than we had expected. Quite a few are in spike and one or two have even started to bloom. It wouldn't be much of a blooming competition if the plant you receive is already in bloom, but instant gratification is great. We'll arrange a growing and blooming competition sometime later in the year with other plants. Remember the number of these gift plants is limited, so they will be allocated on a first come, first served basis until all the gift plants are distributed.

It's appearing more likely that we might be able to do a small show perhaps in late July or August. Of course, a show at that time wouldn't include the same types of blooming plants we typically see in our January show, but that isn't a bad thing. It's very seldom we see *Cattleya* (*Laelia*) *purpurata*, *Cattleya* (*Laelia*) *tenebrosa*, or the large summer blooming bifoliate *Cattleyas* at a show, so this could be a very special treat. We'll know more on whether this is possible in the next couple months, and we'll keep you informed.

As I mentioned last month, this is your club. The board members are here to help things go smoothly, and to ensure the club functions the way you want it to function. If you have ideas or comments, please, send them to us!

Happy growing,
Ken

Top: *Sophranitis cernua*, Helena Wee
Middle: *Cattleya loddigesii*, Sue Rose
Bottom: *Laeliocatanthe* Hot Sauce 'Stella' HCC/AOS, Sue Rose



MEMBER NEWS

NEW MEMBER

We are pleased to welcome a new member to our society. **Clair Zvanski** has joined the POS. She's a resident of San Francisco, and as such, probably has a little different growing experience than most of us Peninsula dwellers. Please take the opportunity to say hello when you have a chance.

RAFFLE WINNERS AT JANUARY MEETING

Congratulations to the plant raffle winners at our January meeting: **Betty Chinn, Joan Chow, Mary Gerritsen, Mike Green, Japheth Ko, Steve Proshan, Mike Rector**. They received Paphiopedilum plants from Sunset Valley Orchids. As a reminder, any POS member who attends the meeting for at least half an hour will be eligible for the drawing at the end of the meeting!

SHOW AND TELL EMAIL CHANGE

Starting with our February meeting Mark Khoo will be the person to send your Show & Tell photos to if you would like to have them included in the slide show. Mark's email address is mklkhoo@gmail.com. Ken Jacobsen will provide the information on your orchids unless you would like to do so. Just let Mark know if you would like to talk about your orchids during the presentation. Thank you so much to all of you take the time to photograph and share your fantastic orchids with us all!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

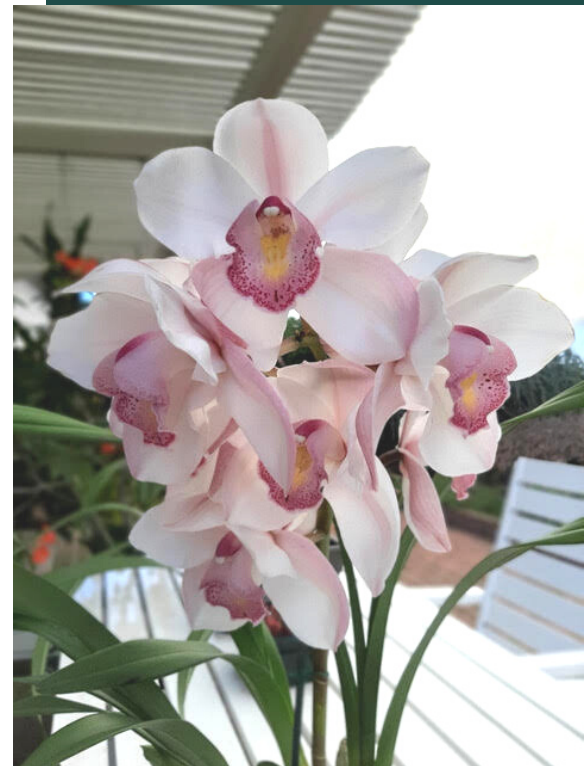
- March speaker: Jurahame Leyva will talk to us from Hawaii about Latouria Dendrobiums. Jurahame will provide our raffle plants. Check out his business, [The Orchid Fix Nursery](#).
- April speaker: Bill Thoms talk to us from Florida from a topic to be determined - but it will include Bulbophyllums which he is very famous for. Check out his website at bulbophyllums.com

USEFUL LINKS

- [The Plant List](#)
- [Orchid Roots](#)
- [St Augustine Orchid Society](#)

Happy birthday

Michelle Bautista
Weegie Caughlan
Sandi Gaunt
Donna Horn
Eric Levenson
Tom Mudge
Pierre Pujol



2021 Board of Directors

President - Ken Jacobsen
Vice President - Chaunie Langland
Recording Secretary - Isis Trenchard
Correspondence Secretary - Helena Wee
Treasurer - Janusz Warszawski
Director of Membership - Olga Ostrovsky
Director of Way and Means - Mark Khoo
Director at Large - Mariko Nagashima
Director at Large - Mary Bui-Pham
Director at Large - Sue Rose
Past President will be Carol Zoltowski

penorchidsoc@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

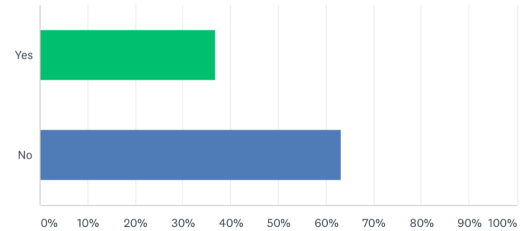
Thank you to every one who took the time to answer the survey questions and I especially appreciate the comments included! They are very helpful.

- Number of members who completed the survey - 42
- Number of members eligible to complete surgery - 135
- Typical time to complete survey - 2 minutes
- Number of responses Survey Monkey allowed us to see without paying - 40 (surprise! This was new from last time)
- The following speakers were suggested for a weekend day meeting - Francisco Miranda, Laurens Grobler (two people suggested him), Roberto Agnes, Sandra Odebrect, Omar Rocha, David Banks, Andy Easton

Regarding funding for a speaker's day - the comments were mainly in favor of all attendees paying with suggestions that members would pay a smaller amount than non-members. The goal of the board would be to try to cover the cost of the speaker's fees but not make a profit. In all likelihood the speaker's day would be virtual so we would not have a building rental fee.

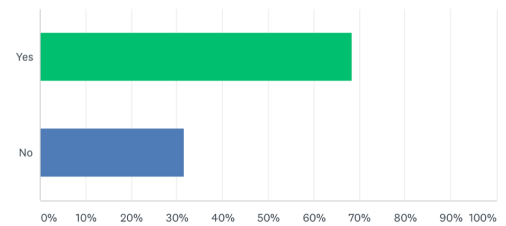
Would you be likely to attend the monthly meeting more often if our meetings were held on the third Tuesday of the month?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 2



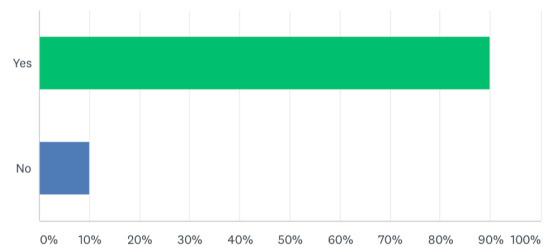
Would you attend a special Saturday or Sunday late morning meeting instead of our regular meeting day one month if it allowed us to have a speaker from Africa or Asia?

Answered: 38 Skipped: 2



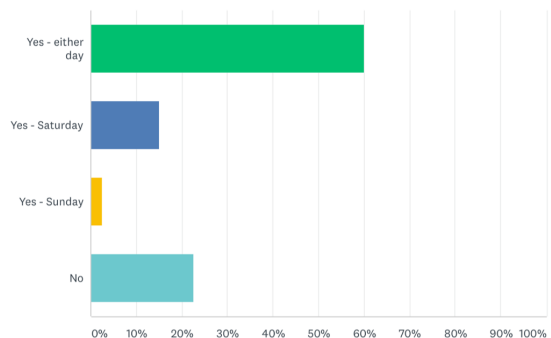
Would you be interested in POS holding a show during the summer or fall if that should become a viable option?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 0



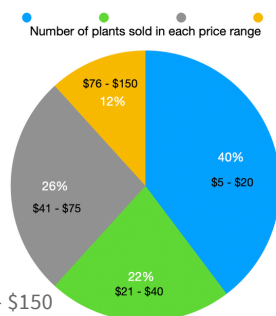
Would you be interested in having a Speakers' Day with up to four speakers on a weekend day?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 0



VIRTUAL SALE RESULTS

- 25 buyers
- 3 cash donations - total of \$76
- 136 items offered by 6 sellers
- 68 items sold
 - 16 in Cattleya
 - 25 in Cymbidium
 - 3 in Dendrobium
 - 3 in Masdevallia
 - 13 misc. species
 - 6 misc. hybrids
 - 2 others
- Highest priced items (2) sold - \$150
- Plant price range - \$5 to \$150
- One item donated
- Gross proceeds (not including sales tax) \$2836 - rough estimate of proceeds for POS \$490



We are very pleased with these results and will likely plan another sale before the summer! We'll try to increase our offerings of plants in the \$5-20 range, since those sold the best this time around.

GREENHOUSE ETIQUETTE

KEN JACOBSEN

As we're enjoying the presentations of the virtual greenhouse tours during this month's meeting, our thoughts naturally turn to actual tours of growing areas from our other members. Of course, this is difficult right now, but not impossible if appropriate protective measures and social distancing are strictly enforced, and should become easier as the Spring comes and more of our members have become vaccinated against COVID-19.

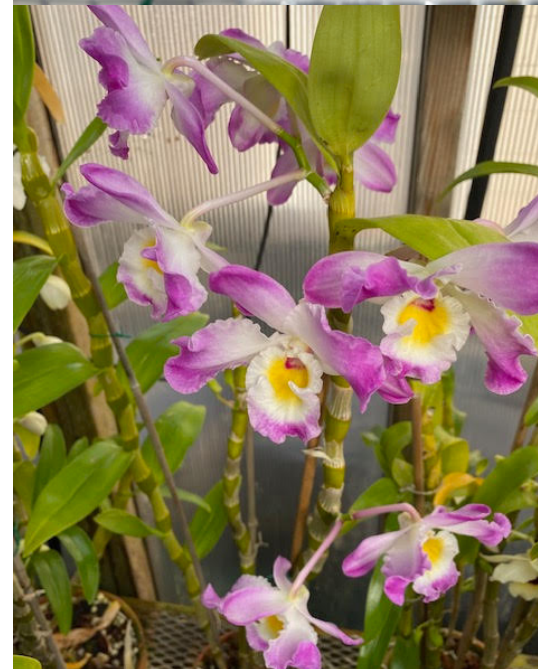
When the opportunity does come to visit the growing areas of other members, remember this is a special place for them, wherein they have some of their most precious and prized possessions. This is the member's inner sanctum, their place of peace and calm, where they go to enjoy their plants for a while, and forget about the rest of the world. Should you be fortunate enough to be invited to share this with them, above all, do so respectfully. Here are some simple ways to ensure such a visit is enjoyable for all involved.

- Growing areas are intended for plants first, and people a distant second. After all, the plants are there 24/7, and people are there for only a small amount of time each week. As such, the aisles are often narrow with leaves or roots hanging into the passageways. Do all that you can to ensure you can pass safely down these paths without causing damage. Most important would be to find a safe place to put any purses, bags, backpacks, or other items so they are not carried down the aisles. One quick turn in a crowded aisle with a large bag over your shoulder, and plants could be scattered. If you don't see a good spot to put your items, ask where they can be safely stored.
- Growers are passionate about their plants and very, very, very careful with how they're grown. Never touch a plant without asking. Better yet, ask the grower about the plant and perhaps they will bring it out for you to see more closely. Remember, they want to show you their prized possessions, and a simple question about a plant will often result in a wealth of knowledge about growing and blooming.
- Every grower has their own way they write labels and put them in the pot, or attach them to the plant. If the label is hard for you to read because of the way it's placed or how it's written, ask the grower. Never remove the label from the plant! I've had occasions when great growers have visited my growing space, and after their visit I found half a dozen labels on the benches. In most cases, I knew which plant was which so I was able to replace the labels, but this could be a way that a valuable plant becomes a NOID (No ID) plant.
- Another topic in the 'don't touch' category is roots. Many growers have mounted or hanging plants with long luxurious roots hanging several feet below the mount or pot. These roots can be relatively easily damaged, so running fingers through the roots just shouldn't happen. If the plants are hanging such that the roots are in the aisle, avoid them as much as possible when walking under them.
- Most growers have an area where they've stockpiled supplies for future repotting, staking, cleaning, or other purposes. They've often spent a considerable amount of time, effort, and money to accumulate what they believe they'll need in the near future to take care of their plants. If they should offer you some of their supplies, be thankful. If they don't mention their supplies, don't ask if you can have some of them.

Top: *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*, Anna Chai

Middle: *Dendrobium Permos 'Elinor'* AM/AOS, Zach Coney

Bottom: *Epidendrum quisayanum*, Chaunie Langland



- It's also common for most growers to have duplicates or divisions of some plants available for other people to grow. Remember, these growers aren't commercial, so the amount of money they may get from selling a few divisions can't even come close to supporting their orchid obsession. What it does provide them is a way of making more space in their (always) too small growing area. Space really is the last frontier. If you see a plant you'd like in their 'plants available' area, ask what they want for the plant. If it sounds reasonable to you, great! You have a new plant. If it's beyond what you want to pay, you might ask if there's a smaller piece available, but don't automatically try to bargain for a lower price. They've already provided what's probably a very fair price, and asking for a lower price will not be perceived well. Remember, they're selling a piece of their prized plant, not because they need the money, but because they need the space.
- Lastly, if you want to take photos, just ask. Most growers will gladly allow photos.

So, this isn't intended to be a complete list, nor was it my intent to dwell on don'ts as opposed to dos. If a grower's special area is treated with the respect you would like your areas to be treated, all involved will enjoy the visit.

Happy growing,
Ken



If you are interested in contributing an article to the Sheath, please contact our newsletter editor, Isis Trenchard at peninsulaorchid@gmail.com!



Top: Coelogyne Linda Buckley 'Clackamas', Jeff Harris
Bottom: Angraecum germinyanum, Jeff Harris



Left: Cattleya Susan Holguin x Rhyncholaeliocattleya Sylvia Fry, Zach Coney
Middle: Laelia anceps 'Pegasus', Helena Wee
Right: Laelia anceps 'Royal Flush', Helena Wee

ORCHIDS FOR SALE

OPEN GREENHOUSE CYMBIDIUM SALES PRESENTED BY GOLD COAST CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY MEMBERS TWO DAYS – TWO DIFFERENT AREAS

With the cancellation of our Spring show and sale, five advanced members, who normally participate in our sale, have chosen to hold OPEN HOUSES on March 27th and 28th. Support our members and get your chance to buy some awesome new seedlings from 2021. **Masks and social distancing required at all locations.**

BAY AREA GROWERS ON THE PENINSULA SATURDAY MARCH 27 10AM TO 3PM

CAROL ARMENDARIZ , SARATOGA, CA
PENDULOUS AND STANDARD CYMS
IN BUD AND IN BLOOM
FOR INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS
CONTACT: carolarmendariz@comcast.net

CARL JUKKOLA, MENLO PARK, CA
CYMBIDIUMS IN BLOOM
WELL STARTED BACK BULBS
FOR INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS
CONTACT: <mailto:cjukkola@aol.com>

WEEGIE CAUGHLAN, LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA
CYMBIDIUMS IN BLOOM
FIRST BLOOM SEEDLINGS AND DIVISIONS OF AWARDED PLANTS
FOR INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS
CONTACT: weegieca@gmail.com

HALF MOON BAY GROWERS SUNDAY MARCH 28 9AM TO 3PM

12511 SAN MATEO RD. (HWY #92) HALF MOON BAY, CA

KEN JACOBSEN
BLOOMING CYMBIDIUMS
ALL COLORS
LAELIAS
CONTACT: <mailto:kenneth.p.jacobsen@gmail.com>

PIERRE PUJOL
BLOOMING CYMBIDIUMS.
FIRST BLOOM SEEDLINGS
SPOTTED AND PELORICS
CONTACT: <mailto:pierrepujol@aol.com>

The following growers also have plants in bloom for sale but cannot participate in the Open House sale due to the restrictions in their greenhouse complex.

Please contact each individually for appointments.

AUDREY YOUNG-TARTER
BLOOMING CYMBIDIUMS AND OTHER GENERA
PELORICS A SPECIALTY
CONTACT: cymserelyours@yahoo.com
WEBSITE: <http://cymserelyours.com>

DEAN HAAS
CYMBIDIUMS AND OTHER GENERA
IN BLOOM
CONTACT: <mailto:dh3botanico@gmail.com>