

THE SHEATH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY

GROWING ORCHIDS DENNIS' WAY

Dennis Olivas

Friday, October 22, 7:00pm

Dennis Olivas was born on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. As a lad, his helped his mom and aunt grow their orchids and got hooked. He joined the Future Farmers of America and his project was raising and selling these beautiful and exotic plants. In 1980 he moved to the mainland and swore off the orchid family; not for long as he went to the Rod McLeallan's Acres of Orchids' in South San Francisco. From there his whole life became one downward spiral. First he fills his home with upwards of 6,000 plants. Later he leased a greenhouse space for his ever burgeoning orchid collection. Glutton for punishment, his collection grew overflowing the 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse in Half Moon Bay.

With the help of his close friends, from the Bay Area, Napa and Fresno, they moved his obsession to a greenhouse in Daly City in November of 2013. A whole new ball game of learning how to raise orchids, still without heat but in an area that gets more sun and higher temperatures, good water year round.

He has served as President for the Peninsula Orchid Society (1994, 1998, 1999 and 2007), 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 over 14 orchid societies and tries to assist them when ever possible.

October Opportunity Table

Everyone present at the SMGC can buy tickets for \$1 each. If you are attending by Zoom and want to participate you will want to have a friend at the meeting buy tickets for you and deliver your plants to you. Not sure who lives near you? Ask on the POS Google Group. Don't belong to the GG? Contact Chaunie.

This month we will have plants from D & D Orchids. It will be a big and fabulous table. DO NOT MISS OUT!

October Skill Session

Repotting Phalaenopsis



Meeting details

6:30pm Garden Center doors and Zoom opens

7:00pm Dennis Olivas

7:50pm Announcements

8:00pm Skill session - repotting Phalaenopsis

8:30pm Show & Tell

End of meeting - plant drawing

reminder

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KEN JACOBSEN

October always brings with it the member slate for new officers for the coming year, followed by the election for those officers in November. Even though our nominating committee has been working overtime to fill a slate with great candidates for all the board positions, there's still time to express interest! If you'd like to consider a board position, please contact any member of the nominating committee and they can provide additional information

If being a board member isn't quite your speed, please consider helping at our upcoming show. We've finally established a group of three people to co-chair the show in January, Mary Bui-Pham, Chaunie Langland, and myself. We're in the process of dividing up the tasks, but if there are show activities you know you can perform and you're willing to do so, contact any one of us. We're starting the process of contacting those individuals we know always help with the show, but you don't have to wait for us to contact you.

In preparation for the show, I'll admit there are a few plants I've already started to pamper a little extra, just in case they bloom at the right time for the show. Yes, it's way too early to know if the timing will be right, but it might be, so I just can't help myself. I would encourage each of you to do the same with some of the plants in your collections. Even if the timing doesn't work out, your special plants will look so much better with a little cleaning, rearranging of the foliage and new growth, and maybe a stake or two to guide the developing inflorescences where you want them to go. If you do decide to provide some plants a little extra care, put them back on the bench in the same orientation as they were before. Otherwise, the spikes could develop sharp changes in direction as the incidence of the light will be different.

One other small item for this month: if any of you want to write a short article, be it all words, or mostly photographs, for upcoming issues of *The Sheath*, those articles would be welcome and appreciated! I'm sure you are tired of the same people (me, for instance) going on about this issue or that, month after month. The chance to provide extra variety is in your hands! If you don't feel comfortable actually creating an article, but have a topic you know will have broad interest within the club, suggest it. We'll try to find someone to write your suggested article. Articles that will always have a broad interest include those on care and culture, and tricks of the trade for plants and growing areas.

Remember, 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, send them to us.

Happy growing,
Ken

Top: *Laelia Dayanum*, Chaunie Langland

Middle: *Rhyncholaeliocattelya* Chloe Bruce, Dan Williamson

Bottom: *Neofinetia (Vanda) falcata* 'Christine', Ana Chai

MEMBER NEWS

Show & Tell

As with last month, if you are not attending the meeting in person, please send up to 3 photos to Mark Khoo mklkhoo@gmail.com and be prepared to talk about your plants when your photos are shown.

Newsletter editor WANTED!

Isis Trenchard has edited the newsletter for several years. She has moved its production to Canva which allows multiple people to add content. The means that the VP puts in the speaker information each month as well as some other content so the editor only has to work on part of the content and is responsible for the style. Isis now has a toddler, serves on the POS board, has a full time job and really needs someone else to take on this role. Reply to chaunie.langland@earthlink.net if you are interested. This could easily be taken on by more than one person to make the time investment minimal.

January 2022 Show and Sale

Mary Bui-Pham, Ken Jacobsen and Chaunie Langland have agreed to serve as the show chair team. The show is scheduled for January 28 (set-up and judging), 29th and 30th at the Community Activities Building in Redwood City. If you have input for the show, or if you are interested in serving as a show chair for one of the areas (Plant Hotel, Trophies and Ribbons, Security, Hospitality, Member Sales) now it the ideal time to contact us. The chairs are responsible for setting up their area and for recruiting volunteers. We normally have an easy time finding volunteers for our show. This year, of course, things will need to be flexible as our crystal ball relating to Covid is a bit cloudy

2022 Proposed Slate of Officers

President - Ken Jacobsen

Vice President - Chaunie Langland

Treasurer - Steve Proschan

Ways and Means - Mark Khoo

Membership - Olga Ostrovsky

Recording secretary - Dan Williamson

Corresponding secretary - Isis Trenchard

Director at Large - Mariko Nagashima

Director at Large - Mary Bui-Pham

Director at Large - Leena Wang

Anyone may nominate someone else (with their consent and the nominator and the nominee must be members in good standing) for any of the board positions at the October meeting or by contacting the head of the nominating committee (Chaunie Langland) prior to the November 26, 2021 meeting. If there are two or more candidates for any position then there will be a vote held at the November meeting for that(those) positions and the winner(s) will be placed on the slate to then be voted for at the same meeting.

Cymbidium Golden Elf 'Sundust', summer blooming, Chaunie Langland

Happy birthday!

October Birthdays

Carol Armendariz
James Baxter
Betty Chin
David Shen
George Spangler
Helena Wee
Dan Williamson



*Cymbidium Golden Elf 'Sundust', HCC/
AOS fragrant - like lemons*

2021 Board of Directors

President - Ken Jacobsen

Past President - Carol Zoltowski

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

Newsletter Editors - Isis Trenchard and
Chaunie Langland

penorchidsoc@yahoo.com

HOW TO PURCHASE CORK BARK FROM MARYLAND CORK

If you find that you would like to have more than a couple of pieces of cork on hand for mounting orchids you may want to purchase a box of cork from Maryland Cork. I recently purchased a box that I split with another POS member, after learning the details of how to do this from Helena Wee, who learned from Tom Mudge.

You need to call the company at 1-800-662-2675, Monday - Thursday, 8am - 4pm EST.

The first question I received was "granular or virgin"? I wasn't prepared for this question but went with virgin, which was the correct answer.

Then you need to tell them flat or round and approximate thickness. I asked for flat, 1 to 2 inches thick.

They fill a large box - 36"x18"x18" - with cork pieces of varying sizes and ship it to you. The cork is sold by the pound. They don't know until they have filled your box how many pounds it will hold. The weight varies between 28-40 lbs. They also don't know until they ship it how much the shipping will cost.

You provide them with your credit card number and your shipping address. I received my box about a week after ordering it.

My box had 33 lbs of cork @ \$3.95/lb, the box cost \$4, and shipping via UPS was \$90. I unpacked the box, made piles of approximately the same size pieces, then divided them about in half. Then I used my baby scale (actually, at our house it is a cat scale) to weigh groups of pieces to finish dividing into two equal groups.

Now I can mount orchids any time I want without worrying that I am going to get something that will need that piece of cork more than the thing I am considering mounting.

Maryland Cork www.marylandcork.com

Also, you can learn about cork bark harvesting and wine bottle cork making on YouTube. The bark is removed from the oak trees every nine years. The tree is not harmed. The first year it is harvested it is called virgin cork. It is not desirable for use in making wine corks, the following years the bark is used to make corks.

Chaunie



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 22 - Peninsula Orchid Society regular meeting. Dennis Olivas will talk about growing orchids outdoors in the Bay Area. Doors open at 6:30 PM. Opportunity table from D & D Orchids.

Tuesday, November 2 - PCJC AOS judging in San Francisco at the County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park at 9th and Lincoln. Plant entry at 6:30pm, judging at 7:00pm.

Wednesday, November 3 - CSNJC AOS judging in Sacramento, Odd Fellows Hall, 1831 Howe Ave, doors open 6:00pm, plant entry 6:30pm, judging 7:00 pm.

Saturday, November 20 - AOS judging Pacific Central Judging Center will offer judging at Filoli Historic House, 86 Canada Rd., Woodside. Plant entry 9:00 AM, judging 9:30 AM. Email Chaunie on Friday, October 15, for details on gaining entry to the judging area. No charge to enter Filoli for judging.

Friday, November 26 - Peninsula OS annual business meeting. Sarah Hurdel will talk about growing Habenarias. These beautiful terrestrial orchids can be grown by any of you! Dormant during the winter. She will provide tubers for the opportunity table.



Masedvallia Royal Monach 'Golden Star', Anna Chai



Dendrobium cuthbertsonii 'Pink Giant', Anna Chai



Miltonia regnellii 'Starburst', Tom Waugh



Cattleya, Leena Wang



Dendrobium cuthbertsonii, Anna Chai



Laelia pumila var. coerulea, Ken Jacobsen

Fall Orchid Market

Carmel Orchid Society

Friday - Saturday Nov. 12th & 13th
9AM - 4PM

Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula
4590 Carmel Valley Rd. Carmel CA



Orchid Digest Virtual Speakers' Day November 13

[Register](#)

Speakers:

Jis Sebastian: Orchid Science in India: Current Perspectives & Future Challenges

Jis has worked in the Western Ghats, India's Western & Eastern Himalayas, involved in research, conservation, and community outreach. She is currently running research, conservation, and capacity-building programs in Orchid science and a climate-resilient, sustainable community model initiative in Idukki, Kerala.

Henry Oakeley: Orchid Hunting in Peru

Henry has been growing orchids for 65 years, concentrating on Lycaste, Ida, and Anguloa for nearly 50 years. He is a Physician Emeritus and Garden fellow for the Royal College of Physicians of London medicinal garden. For the past ten years, his primary interest has been the history and uses of medicinal plants.

John Varigos: Borneo—Land of Wonder & Biodiversity

John, a pharmacologist and clinical trialist, has grown orchid species for over 40 years. He is an avid orchid photographer (over 20,000 photos on Flickr) and, for the past 20 years, has enjoyed traveling the world, trekking the jungles, and finding and photographing orchids in situ.

Jim Cootes: Orchid Species of the Philippines

Jim's interest in Philippine orchids started in the late 1970s when he visited the mountains of central Luzon. He saw many orchids that he could not identify, so he created a database. From this material, he has written 2 books and is working on the third volume as well as co-authored a book on Philippine dendrobiums.