

# THE SHEATH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15



*Ceologyne incrassata*,  
grown by Dan Williamson

## "UNUSUAL SPECIES FOR THE CATTLEYA GROWER"

This program by Alan Koch shows many weird and unusual species that grow with Cattleya culture. If you can grow a Cattleya you can grow any of these. The program is sectioned off and starts off with a well known Cattleya species and plants that grow just like it.

# MEMBER NEWS

## **Orchid Talk:**

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Alan Koch owns and operates Gold Country Orchids where he specializes in miniature and compact Cattleya's along with miniature species. Alan started growing orchids in 1969 with 3 Cymbidiums given to him by an aunt. While in college he became interested in other orchids and discovered many would grow outdoors in Southern California. He has moved five times as his orchid obsession has led to the need for more growing space. With the last move, he purchased 10 acres of land in Lincoln, California for his 250,000 orchids. He is recognized as an expert in the Brazilian Cattleya alliance and a trend setter in miniature compact and Cattleya breeding. Alan has been published in the Orchid Digest, the American Orchid Society magazine, as well as many International Publications. He has also been published in several proceedings of the World Orchid Conference. He is an internationally known speaker. He is a past member of the AOS Judging Committee, and the Research Committee, as well as an Emeritus Judge and is Training Coordinator for the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center. Alan also served two terms on the Orchid Digest Executive Committee and 3 terms on the Board of Directors, as well as two terms as a Trustee for the AOS. He is currently the First Vice President for the International Phalaenopsis Alliance. Alan is also well known for the many AOS auctions he has done.

## **Birthdays:**

Wishing a very happy birthday this month to Kathy Barrett, Clint Evans, Hai Merfalen, Patricia Papa, Edith Rodriguez, Dave Tatro, Janusz Warszawski, Corinna Wan, Tom Waugh, Miva Wong, and Audrey Young-Tarter!



## **Show and Tell:**

If you plan to attend via Zoom and want to show your orchids at the meeting, please send photos to Dan Williamson ([dwillmsn-home@yahoo.com](mailto:dwillmsn-home@yahoo.com)) and prepare to share. You may prepare a slide presentation or a display, and photograph it and talk about your various plants.

If you would like your pictures to be in the next month's newsletter, send them to Leena Wang ([penorchidsoc@yahoo.com](mailto:penorchidsoc@yahoo.com)). Include the name and clear pictures. Please send photos by the end of the second Friday of the month.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAN WILLIAMSON

This is the end of my first year as your president, I'm going to reflect back on the year and what I've learned:

- At the annual show and sale in January, I was reminded of how much fun it is to do a full show like that and to talk to people about things that I am passionate about.
- I learned that when preparing food, good vegetarian options are very important.
- I re-learned that no matter how good I think my records for the trophies are, they aren't good enough.
- I learned that plaid prints are terrible for video recordings and that presentations about orchids bring a crowd to the San Mateo arboretum.
- I learned that some Paphs really like semi-hydro culture and some absolutely do not and I'm not really sure how to know the difference.
- I am reminded constantly how nice the people in the orchid community are.

I hope that next year you take time to make connections with people that are passionate about the things you are passionate about, that your orchids bloom in profusion and that you try something new.

Happy Holidays!

**71st** San Francisco Orchid Society Presents:  
Annual Pacific Orchid Exposition Show and Plant Sale

## Timeless Orchids

February 16-17  
10am - 5pm

February 18  
10am - 4pm

Preview Night:  
Feb 15 6-9 pm  
(Must be 21 or older)

County Fair Building  
1199 9th Ave.  
San Francisco, CA

Discounted advance tickets available  
[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)





# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **December 15 - POS Meeting**

We will be holding a joint meeting with GCCS. Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids will speak to us on unusual Cattleya species, who is also providing our opportunity table plants. Doors open at 6:30 PM (along with Zoom) and the meeting begins at 7:00 PM. At the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo 94403.

## **December 16 - AOS Pacific Central Judging at Filoli**

Meets the third Saturday of each month. At Filoli 86 Cañada Road Woodside, CA 94062. Plant entry is at 10:00 AM (you may enter through the front entrance!)

## **February 1 to 4 - 2024 GCCS Annual Auction**

Online auction hosted by the Gold Coast Cymbidium society! There will be past show winners, species, hybrids, feathered, peloric, and companion plants offered in the auction. More information at:  
<https://goldcoastcymbidiumociety.org/auction.html>

## **February 16-18 - Pacific Orchid Exposition**

"Timeless Orchids", at the County Fair Building, 1199 9th Avenue, San Francisco, CA. More information on the San Francisco Orchid Society website:  
<https://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/>

## 2023 Board of Directors

President - Dan Williamson

Vice President - Leena Wang

Recording Secretary - Dan Williamson

Treasurer - Steve Proschan

Director of Membership - Olga Ostrovsky

Director of Ways and Means - Mark Khoo

Director at Large - Viktoria Kolotovska

Director at Large - Mary Bui-Pham

Director at Large - Mitch Schneider

Newsletter Editor - Leena Wang

Do you have something you would like to include in the next newsletter?

Send an email to [penorchidsoc@yahoo.com](mailto:penorchidsoc@yahoo.com)!

## Meeting Agenda

6:30 PM - Zoom/SMGC opens

7:00 PM - Alan Koch

8:00 PM - Announcements

8:10 PM - Show and Tell

Opportunity Table - Gold Country  
Orchids

## Reminder

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

If you have not renewed your membership for 2023, please send in this form to join or online at our website: <http://penorchidsoc.org/membership.html>

2023 Peninsula Orchid Society  
Membership Application or Renewal

Write checks payable to: POS

Mail to: Steve Proshan – POS Membership  
326 El Paseo, Millbrae CA 94030

*(Membership chairperson for 2023 is Olga Ostrovsky - checks are being mailed directly to the treasurer)*

Member Information (Please Print):

Name(s) (1) \_\_\_\_\_ BirthMonth \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ BirthMonth \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ZipCode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note: We need your current e-mail address to send you *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 except in an annual directory sent only to current POS members.**

**E-mail:** (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:

- Individual \$20.00                       Household membership additional \$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 re-new before the end of January each year.

Membership Chair's area

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

# NOVEMBER SHOW AND TELL



Clockwise from top left: *Cattleya longipes* 'Soft Touch' (Chaunie Langland), *Laeliocattleya* Miss Wonderful (Chaunie Langland), *Cattleya bowringiana* hybrid 'Dad's Purple Prince' (Tom Waugh), and *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* (Anna Chai)





Clockwise from top: *Cymbidium dayanum* (Paul Asente), *Lepanthes manabina* (Catherine Obillo),  
and *Gomesa forbesii* 'Avalon' AM/AOS (Anna Chai)



Clockwise from left: *Cymbidium elegans* 'Duck Won' (Anna Chai), *Anguloa clowesii* (Catherine Obillo), and *Masdevallia Mary Staal* 'Mellow Yellow' (Dan Williamson)