

THE SHEATH

NEWSLETTER OF THE PENINSULA ORCHID SOCIETY



NOVEMBER 22

**Repotting, Water Quality, Virus
Testing, & Indoor Grow Spaces**

MEMBER NEWS

November Meeting:

Our upcoming meeting will be a workshop, where you can move between stations to learn about a variety of topics. Bill Weaver will talk about repotting plants, Ken Jacobsen will talk about virus testing, Chaunie Langland will talk about water quality and testing, and Dan Williamson will talk about setting up an indoor grow space. If you would like, **please bring a sample of your water** so that Chaunie can test it with her TDS meter!

The auction table plants will be provided by Diamond Orchids (Peter T. Lin).

Birthdays:

Wishing a very happy birthday this month to Mimi Campbell, Henry Chaplin, Sylvia Darr, Roma Dziembaj, Susan Gutierrez, Lolia Kwan, Chaunie Langland, Ben Merfalen, Tom Pickford, and Bill Weaver!



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) 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 our email (penorchidsoc@yahoo.com) by the end of the second Friday of the month. Include the name and clear pictures.

2025 Proposed Slate:

President: Dennis Olivas
Vice President: Dan Williamson
Recording Secretary: Leena Wang
Correspondence Secretary: Open
Treasurer: Steve Proschan
Director of Membership: Olga Ostrovsky
Director of Ways and Means: Mark Khoo
Director at Large: Susan Gutierrez
Director at Large: Open
Director at Large: Open



Cover: *Vanda falcata* (?)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAN WILLIAMSON

I'm way behind on reading my Orchids magazines from the AOS, but the President's Letter I read last night talked about keeping a cup of tags from dead orchids. Which got me thinking, I had to dispose of several of my favorite orchids this past month. I didn't want to so I put it off as long as I could. I'm not sure what happened to the first one, but the other one got seriously infected with scale. I isolated it and dealt with the scale as much as I could, but in the end home remedies and off the shelf solutions from Home Depot weren't up to the task.

I guess that is a reminder to keep up with pest control on your plants and to keep an eye on them to ensure they have what they need. They will usually tell you. Floppy leaves and wrinkly pseudobulbs means it's not getting enough water either not enough water or the roots are in trouble. Maybe it needs to be watered more often, kept more humid or repotted. Sometimes I am able to save plants by upotting them, cutting off all the dead roots, and sitting them in a mason jar of water. Eventually the plant will either rot or grow roots. When it looks like its not going to grow roots, I get rid of it before it rots. When the roots have started I will pot it into as small a pot as possible, usually with tightly packed sphagnum to let the new roots have access to water and humidity for as long as possible.

Traces of scale and mealybugs should be dealt with immediately, I use insecticidal soap and Bioadvanced 3-in-1 Insect, Disease & Mite Control – the version with Imidacloprid. Both I get at home and are reasonably safe to use indoors where I grow most of my orchids. The Bioadvanced product is definitely NOT safe to use OUTdoors.

I hope you don't need any of this advice, but keeping a close eye on your plants is always a good practice.



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 22 - Peninsula Orchid Society Meeting

Doors and Zoom open at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7 pm, at the San Mateo Garden Center. Auction table will be provided by Diamond Orchids (Peter T. Lin)

December 20 - Peninsula Orchid Society Meeting

This meeting will be a joint meeting with GCCS. Doors and Zoom open at 6:30 pm, meeting begins at 7 pm, at the San Mateo Garden Center.

February 29 to March 2 - Orchids in the Clouds

(72nd Pacific Orchid Exposition Show and Sale).

March 8 to 10 - Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

"Exotic Gardens" - for more information and to purchase tickets, visit:

<https://sborchidshow.com/tickets-2025/>



2024 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 - Susan Gutierrez

Director at Large - Joseph Kautz

Director at Large - Ken Jacobsen

Newsletter Editor - Leena Wang

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

Send an email to penorchidsoc@yahoo.com!

Meeting Agenda

6:30 PM - Zoom/SMGC doors open

7:00 PM - Workshop

8:00 PM - Announcements

8:10 PM - Show and Tell

Opportunity Table - Diamond Orchids

Reminder

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

SHOW & TELL



Top: *Brassocattleya Morning Glory* (Catherine Obillo), *Laelianthe Wrigleyi* (Helena Wee)
Bottom: *Phragmipedium Uranus* (Helena Wee), *Epidendrum hugomedinae* (Catherine Obillo)



Plectrelminthus caudatus (Yufei Cheng)

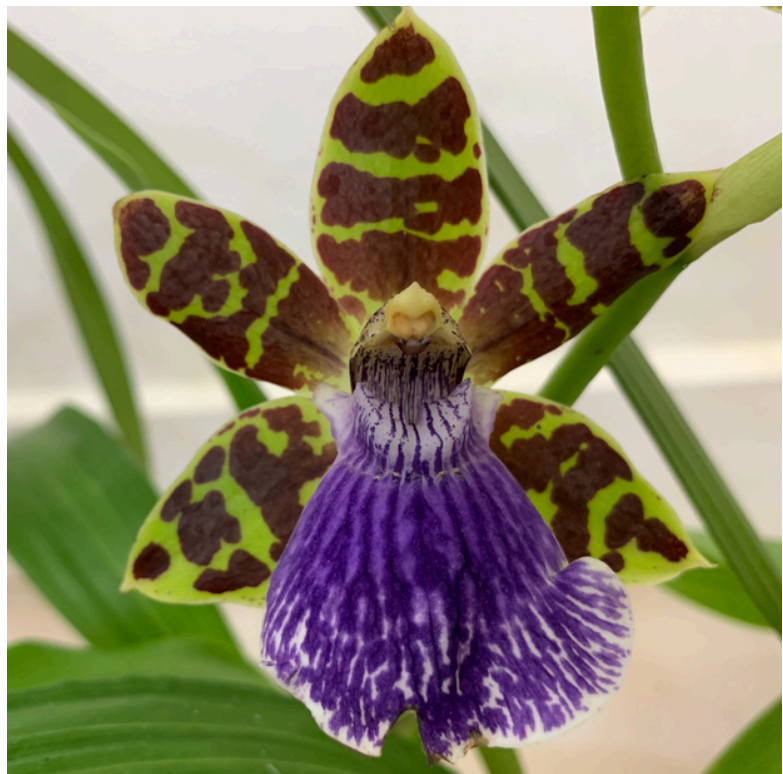


Top: *Epidendrum radicans* (Paul Asente), *Brassocattleya Fantasy Bird* (Catherine Obillo)
Bottom: *Ryncholaeliocattleya Memoria Helen Kurtz* (?), *Vandoglossum Yawi's Taiwan Queen* (Tom Mudge)



Top: *Laeliocattleya Irene's Song* "Montclair" HCC / AOS (Dan Colton)

Bottom: *Galeandra Penny Lane* (Yufei Cheng)



Top: *Cattleya Chamerlainiana* (Catherine Obillo), *Zygopetalum Jumpin' Jack* (Catherine Obillo)
Bottom: *Masdevallia Panguaña* (Catherine Obillo), *Barkeria scandens* (Chaunie Langland)