



## San Francisco Orchid Society Newsletter

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### SFOS Meeting

**Tues. Dec. 3, 2013**

### December 2013 Volume 62 Number 12

**The mission** of the SFOS is to foster the culture and cultivation of orchids and to promote education of its members and the public about orchids. Our goals include: an exchange of information from exhibitions, publications, and the Internet, maintenance of a reference library, and participation in worldwide activities.

### December Speaker

### Alan Koch

### Miniature Cattleyas for the Home and Garden

### Alan Koch

**Alan Koch** owns and operates Gold Country Orchids where he specializes in miniature and compact Cattleyas. 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 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 Accredited Judge and is Training Coordinator for the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center. Alan also served two terms on the Orchid Digest Executive Committee and Board of Directors, as well as two



**Tues. December 3, 2013**  
**AOS Judging: 7:00 PM**  
**Skills Session: 7:05 PM**  
**Meeting: 7:30 PM**

San Francisco County Fair Building,  
Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and  
Lincoln Way, San Francisco. Plants  
submitted for American Orchid  
Society Judging must be entered  
between 6:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

#### Speaker

**Alan Koch**  
*Miniature Cattleyas for the Home  
and Garden*

#### **Skill Session**

**Chris Mende**  
*Working with Seedlings*  
One of the best ways to build an  
orchid collection is to buy seedlings,  
grow them until they flower, and  
choose the best ones to keep. Chris  
will tell us her methods for raising  
healthy seedlings.

#### Plant Opportunity Table

**Alan Koch**

#### 2013-2014 SFOS Officers/Contacts

President  
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[beckendo@berkeley.edu](mailto:beckendo@berkeley.edu)  
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Carol Zoltowski  
415-657-3222  
[czoltowski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:czoltowski@sbcglobal.net)  
Show Treasurer  
Dan Peter

terms as a Trustee for the AOS.



## **Miniature Cattleyas for the Home and Garden**



This program shows novice to advanced growers what species are the building blocks to miniature cattleyas for the home or garden. It will help you with orchid purchases by knowing what plants can grow in your conditions whether you are growing in the window or under lights, or even outdoors with your Cymbidiums. The most important thing is that you will learn the culture of the species that are used most often and how to apply this knowledge to the hybrids. By purchasing the right plant for your conditions it will make a world of difference. By the end of this program you will have the knowledge to buy the right cattleyas at POE 2014 and the cultural tips to grow them well. I will recommend several firms that members can purchase Modern Miniature Cattleyas from with quality assurance.

650-563-9259  
[dan.peter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dan.peter@sbcglobal.net)

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[DennisWestler@aol.com](mailto:DennisWestler@aol.com)

Web Site

[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)  
[info@orchidsanfrancisco.org](mailto:info@orchidsanfrancisco.org)

A California Non Profit 501(c)3  
Corporation  
SFOS NEWSLETTER December  
2013

**FEATURED ARTICLE**

**2013 Membership Directory**

The new membership directory is now online on the SFOS website

**Notice to Members about pre-order discounts.**

Any member can get a 20% discount from [www.goldcountryorchids.com](http://www.goldcountryorchids.com) by entering GCOD in the discount code, case sensitive and under freight enter deliver to society. They can also call the nursery.  
Gold Country Orchids 916-645-8600

**Dinner with the Speaker**

Please join us in the parking lot in back of the SF County Fair Building at 5:30 PM sharp.

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**Minutes of the SFOS Board Meeting**

**SFOS Board Meeting November 11, 2013**

Present: Mary Gerritsen, Jean Lee, Dennis Westler, Valerie Mountain, Chris Mende, Florence Inserto, Carol Zoltowski, George McRae, Dave Hermeyer, Excused: Steve Beckendorf, Claire Zvanski

**I. Vice President's Report**

A. Mary for Steve: December speaker will be Alan Koch from Gold Country Orchids, topic TBD. He will also provide the plant opportunity table. Chris Mende will present the Skill Session, topic: Managing Seedlings.

**II. Treasurer Report**

A. Carol noted that, as of the first week of November, our High Yield Savings account balance is \$86,581.36, the Market Rate Savings account balance is \$1506.22, and the Checking account balance is \$43,844.80.

**III. Membership**

A. Membership renewals are starting for 2014. Florence will put a note in the December newsletter reminding all to renew their membership. The new forms (which are also online) have an opt-out check box for those who do not wish to have their personal information published in the on-line member only roster (we should say that to avoid people getting the idea that we somehow broadcast their information).

**IV. New Business**

A. Orchids in the Park- A discussion was held regarding the future of Orchids in the Park, due to the impact on attendance from multiple park events and lack of parking during September and October. The options discussed were: whether to discontinue the show, move it to a new venue, leave it as is, or choose a new date. Various alternative venues were discussed as well, including the Fleet Room at Fort Mason Center, but none of them had any advantages over the Hall of Flowers. A vote was held and passed to continue the show in its current location and look for an available weekend in August. Jean checked dates with Parks & Rec and has submitted a request for the 1st weekend in August.

1. Insurance for 2014- SFOS has been getting insurance through the California Garden Club. The AOS is offering insurance at a better rate. A vote was held and passed to purchase the AOS policy for 2014.
2. December Meeting- Both Mary and Steve will be out of town for the December SFOS monthly meeting. George McCrae will run the meeting, with Florence Inserto's assistance. The Board meeting will be on Tuesday, December 17th.

**V. Old Business**

A. POE Update- Dennis reported that we are still waiting on commitments from the Taiwan sponsor, as well as CBS and KCBS. Vendors are signing up more quickly than for the 2013 event, the wine glasses have been designed, and exhibitor applications are going out. A band is booked for the Gala night, but there will not be live music for the rest of the show. There will be a Silent Auction, which was very successful last year. Lynn Murrell is in charge of the Auction and will be looking for donations, such as plants, tickets to events or

All members with an email address in our records should have received instructions for login and password.

If there are errors, please contact Florence Inserto - [floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com) or Claire Zvanski: (415) 341-3085 [czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com).

**2014 Dues Are Now Payable**  
(\$25 per year-Individual)  
(\$40 per household-2 or more- per year)  
Dues may be payable at any SFOS meeting, or go the Web site [www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org) and use Pay Pal or mail to SFOS- Membership PO Box 27145 SF, CA 94127-0145

- \$25/year or \$40/year (with Email Newsletter Option)
- \$45/year individual (with USPS Mail Newsletter Option)

Thank you!

#### Welcome New Members

Mary Richardson  
Lauren Nguyen  
Mary Landers  
Joan Roesenber  
Jack Ryder  
Justin Ott  
Janet Hopkin  
Karen Olson  
Dianna Lew  
Yasko Gamo

Please welcome our new members whenever you meet them and especially at the San Francisco Orchid Society meetings.

#### NOTICE TO BUSINESS MEMBERS OF THE SFOS

Member Orchid Related Businesses in our Roster are out of date. All current SFOS members who wish to have their Orchid Related Businesses listed need to contact membership. See contact information above or at end of this newsletter.

#### Refreshments

J - P

SFOS members are encouraged to help out with refreshments, setup

cruises, artwork, and other items of value. We encourage members to talk to the owners of their favorite restaurants and business to see if donations for the auction can be procured, as the value of the auction to our society has been growing yearly.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Valerie Mountain

## SFOS Bulletin Board

### Pacific Orchid Exposition- 2014 - Orchids And All That Jazz

**February 20-23, 2014 Ft. Mason, San Francisco, CA**

#### Plant Registrars for the Spring Show - Welcome!

Are you familiar with orchid genera names? Want to make a big contribution to the show? Organized? Like to work mostly sitting down? If so, we'd love to hear from you!

We are looking for a team of intrepid volunteers to coordinate plant entry for the Pacific Orchid Exposition. Plant registrars are the folks who help people know which category their plant should be entered in, answer questions, and keep the entry books carefully organized so all is ready to go for ribbon, trophy, AOS and CSA judging on Thursday .

Plant registration takes place from noon to 9 pm on Wednesday, February 20, and 8 to 9:30 am on Thursday, February 21. You do not need to be there for the entire time. It's interesting and fun working with plants and exhibitors.

For details, please contact **Cindy Hill** by email at [hill-cynthia@comcast.net](mailto:hill-cynthia@comcast.net) or call 510-524-1854.

\*\*\*\*\*

***Don't Let The Youth Prize Pass You By.***

#### The Imperiale Youth Prize Pacific Orchid Exposition 2014

If you are seventeen or younger, it's time to represent your best. Show off your orchids, show off your skills. Join in the excitement at this year's **Pacific Orchid Exposition 2014**. The San Francisco Orchid Society is proud to announce the return of the youth prize. **The Imperiale Youth Prize**, which is awarded annually at the Pacific Orchid Exposition, recognizes cultural excellence by those seventeen and younger. But without you there is no "Best Orchid Plant Grown by a Youth." Enter a plant. You may find yourself with a ribbon. You might win the youth prize. You will have fun. Entries are accepted at the POE 2014 show prior to the opening.

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The Bulletin Board is a free service for SFOS members' orchid related items. Send items by the 15th of the month by email to: [stanford@rkmediasolutions.com](mailto:stanford@rkmediasolutions.com) Include your name, phone number, and how long you want the item to run. We will also run items of interest from other orchid societies. All submissions will be reviewed and may be edited.

#### Upcoming Events

**December 3, 2013 7:30pm - SFOS General Meeting**

and cleanup at Monthly Meetings.  
If your last name falls within the letter range **J - P** please bring snacks such as fresh fruit, crackers & cheese for the next meeting. About three dozen cookies, one cake, one to two pounds of fruit or cheeses, or one box of crackers is an appropriate amount. Remember to pick up your raffle ticket as one of the rewards of sharing - and good luck in the drawing!



## AOS Awards

### AOS Awards

American Orchid Society Pacific  
Judging Center Web site:  
[www.aospacificcentral.org/](http://www.aospacificcentral.org/)  
Please check the Web site for the



most recent awards.

## Change of Address

Send all address and e-mail changes to:  
Florence Inserto -  
[floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com)  
or Claire Zvanski:  
(415) 341-3085 -  
[czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com)

**SFOS Membership**  
P.O. Box 27145,  
San Francisco, CA 94127

## Newsletter Items

The SFOS Newsletter welcomes news, articles, events, and any other items of interest to members. Send items by the 15th of the month in an email to Stanford Stapleton at:  
[stanford@rkmediasolutions.com](mailto:stanford@rkmediasolutions.com)  
Please include your name at the beginning or end of your text. All submissions will be reviewed and may be edited due to space limitations. Thank you!  
Sincerely,  
**San Francisco Orchid Society**



## Main Speaker - Alan Koch

### **Subject: Cattleyas for the Home and Garden**

### **Skill Session- Chris Mende -Working with Seedlings**

One of the best ways to build an orchid collection is to buy seedlings, grow them until they flower, and choose the best ones to keep. Chris will tell us her methods for raising healthy seedlings.

### **November 29, 30, Dec 1, 2013 11 AM-5PM. Holiday Open Studio & Garden Tour -Sally Robertson - Bolinas - Stinson Beach Open Studios**

284 Cherry Road, Bolina, CA. Original Watercolors-Archival Prints - Note Cards. [www.sallyrobertson.com](http://www.sallyrobertson.com)  
[www.sallyrobertsongallery.com](http://www.sallyrobertsongallery.com)

### **December 12, 2013 Thursday-City College of San Francisco-Holiday Sale/Open House 11AMto8 PM.**

Scholarship Benefit featuring student Projects. Potluck Supper at 6PM. Horticulture Center Ocean Campus-Judson & Phelan Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112 415-239-3236 or 415-239-3140.

### **January 17, 2014 Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Annual Collector's Auction**

Preview 6:30 PM. Auction starts at 7:00 PM. San Mateo Garden Center 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA Phone bids accepted by prior agreement. Information: Carl Jukkola at [cjukkola@aol.com](mailto:cjukkola@aol.com) .

### **January 25-26, 2014 Peninsula Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale**

### **February 15 - 23, 2014 Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival 2014**

Tokyo Dome, Tokyo, Japan 10 AM - 5:30 PM

### **February 20 - 23, 2014 Pacific Orchid Exposition- 2014 - Orchids And All That Jazz**

Ft. Mason, San Francisco, CA

## Upcoming Speakers

January 2014 - TBA

February 2014 - Dave Sorokowsky - Phaphs

## Notices

### Wear Your Name Badge

The board voted to provide a special raffle ticket to members when they pick up and wear their name tags at our meetings. A drawing for a plant from the opportunity table will be limited to this and will immediately follow the choice by the person who did the Skill Session and the winner from the Show and Tell table. So, wearing your name tag will get you an early selection from the opportunity table.

Your name tag will be available at the membership table.

## Member's Corner

### In Memoriam

**Howard Williams Gunn - born on May 10, 1925 in Alameda CA and passed away on October 27, 2013 in Sacramento**

Howard Williams Gunn was born 10 May 1925 in Alameda CA and passed away on 27 October 2013 in Sacramento. A long time orchid grower and member of the Sacramento Orchid Society, he was well known to many of the orchid growers in the San Francisco Area, and was a popular speaker at many orchid societies. Howard had a world class collection of bulbophyllums, paphiopedilums, and many other rare and unusual species. Howard was the last of the founding members of the Paphiopedilum Guild. He is survived by his wife Joan Gunn, his son Jeffrey Michael Gunn, his step-daughters Carol Elliott, Cris Thompson and Joan Marie Gunn and his step-sons Robert Wells and Russell Wells, son-in-law Wink Thompson, and daughters-in-law Stephanie Marie Wells and Linda Wells, and by 14 grandchildren and numerous great-grands. He will be interred at the National Military Cemetery in Dixon, CA.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in his memory to **The Orchid Digest**, PO Box 6966, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607 <http://www.orchiddigest.com/> or the **American Orchid Society** [https:// www.aos.org/store/donate.aspx](https://www.aos.org/store/donate.aspx) or the **American Cancer Society** [https:// www.donate.cancer.org/index](https://www.donate.cancer.org/index) 1-800-227-2345 is appreciated.

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### **Walter Calvin Teague Memorial**

**Saturday, November 23, 11:00am–3:00pm**

San Francisco County Fair Building, Recreation Room

Walter Teague, a long-time member of the SFSCS, passed away at the age of 87 on October 16. A regular attendee of the SFOS meetings, Walter was often seen photographing the many beautiful orchids on display at the show and tell table. He was interested in many types of plants and was active in other local plant societies as well.

Born in Ecuador, Walter learned and became fluent in Spanish, German and English there. After completing his college education at UCLA, he went on to become a purser for the airlines. He worked for Pan Am, which allowed him to travel to many remote, worldwide destinations. Walter is responsible for discovering many new orchid species while exploring the tropical cloud forests—some have been named after him, as well as the genus Teagueia.

A celebration of life memorial will be held on Saturday, November 23rd, 11:00am-3:00pm, in the San Francisco County Fair Building (the Hall of Flowers), located at 9th and Lincoln, in the Recreation Room. A buffet lunch will accompany the presentation.

For more information about Walter, please visit the online obituary.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate/obituary.aspx?n=walter-teague&pid=167959699>

### **SFOS Monthly Show and Tell Table**

We want to thank our members who bring in their plants for display at the monthly meetings. This is a great viewing experience for all and a great way to learn about new plants we might want to try to grow in the future for ourselves.

But did you know that you can bring in a blooming plant that you might not be certain about the name or type and have our group of experts help identify your plant? The more you know, the better your chance of success. Thank you for participating and we'll see you and your plants at the next monthly meeting.

The Board

### **Culture note handouts from RoyTokunaga's presentation**

Please check the San Francisco Orchid Society Website.

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## **Announcements**

### **Greetings San Francisco Orchid Society Member It's time to renew your membership!**

With the passing of another year, it's time to renew your San Francisco Orchid Society Membership for 2014.

Your dues help the Society fulfill its mission to foster the culture and cultivation of orchids and to educate the public about orchids. Each year, the Society puts on one of the largest orchid shows in the U.S., brings you speakers from around the world giving presentations on all manner of topics about orchids and presents a diverse and highly educational plant table at each monthly meeting.

The Society thanks you for your support this past year (or half year to those of you who've joined since June!) and we hope you'll continue your membership for 2014. Dues are \$25/year individual or \$40 per couple - a bargain when compared to many other plant societies.

The Society also established an endowment, a savings account basically, to support the mission and operation of the Society in the future. All contributions to the endowment are tax-deductible. This is a great opportunity to make a donation before the end of 2013 and it will really help secure the future of the Society for years to come.

Thank you and we'll see you at the Hall of Flowers!

**Claire Zvanski and Florence Inserto**  
San Francisco Orchid Society  
Volunteer Board Members  
Membership CO-Chairs

## On-line Membership Roster

We have been updating our membership lists, and hopefully the on line roster is up to date too. If you want to check your information, or look up someone's contact information, go to

[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/member/login.php](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/member/login.php)

If you have forgotten your password there is a link to recover your password. If you have an orchid related business (e.g. nursery, decorating, landscaping, flower arranging, art, ceramics, photography etc.) and would like it listed in our business listing, please contact membership: [czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com) or [flojo1337@yahoo.com](mailto:flojo1337@yahoo.com)

## Writers wanted!

Would you like to contribute a short article to the SFOS newsletter? Cultural information about your favorite species or hybrid?

Do you have other orchid related information you would like to share with the membership? If you are interested, please contact the newsletter editor with a brief description of what you would like to contribute. We'd like to make the newsletter more informative to our members, and this is a great way to share your knowledge.

## Photos wanted!

Do you take photos at the meetings? Would you like to be a "published" photographer? We'd like to run a few (2-4) photos each month of plants that were shown at the previous meeting. Helps us make our newsletter more attractive! If you would like to submit photos, please contact the newsletter editor.

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## Special Events



VISIT THE STUDIO & GARDEN OF  
**SALLY ROBERTSON**  
THANKSGIVING DAY WEEKEND  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 29 & 30 & DEC. 1, 11 - 5

*Stroll the acclaimed Garden in Bolinas  
on the beautiful Marin County Coast &  
visit the Studio where Art & Garden meet.*

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Photographs by Saxon Holt



**City College of San Francisco**

Environmental Horticulture/Floristry Department

**Holiday Sale/Open House**

*Scholarship Benefit*

Thursday  
December 12, 2013  
11:00AM-8:00PM

**Featuring Student Projects**

Poinsettias Orchids  
Holiday Wreaths  
Centerpieces and Arrangements  
Selected Indoor and Outdoor Plants

Potluck Supper @ 6:00 PM

SAIFD AIR Holiday Floral Design Presentation  
by

Wil Gonzalez AIFD @ 7:00 PM

Orchid Care Presentation by  
Tom Perlite and Bruce Rogers @ 7:00 PM

Horticulture Center  
Ocean Campus  
Judson @ Phelan Avenue  
San Francisco, CA, 94112

For more information:  
415-239-3236 or 415-239-3140

visit [www.ccsf.edu](http://www.ccsf.edu)  
for most current information and registration



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