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San Francisco Orchid Society Newsletter

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February 2013 Volume 62 Number 2

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.

February Speaker

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Membership

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SFOS Meeting

Tues. February 5, 2013



SF Orchid Society

Tues. February 5, 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

Ron Parsons

*Finding Orchids in Sichuan
Province, China*

Ron Parsons



Ron Parsons is considered by many to be one of the finest flower photographers in the United States. His photography and encyclopedic knowledge of orchids is known both nationally and internationally. He has been photographing orchids for 25 years and has a slide collection of orchid species that numbers well over 80,000 images. He went "digital" more than three years ago, and already has more than 30,000 flower images.

Ron loves to travel, photograph orchids and other wildflowers in the wild and visit orchid and other plant collections. He and co-author, Mary Gerritsen have written two books. "*Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World*" and "*Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives*". They are currently working on their third book focusing on miniature orchid species that is anticipated to be released by the end of 2013.

Finding Orchids in Sichuan Province, China

In June of 2012 I had the opportunity to visit Sichuan (Szechwan) Province, China. I traveled with Mary Gerritsen on a tour hosted by Holger Perner, renowned lady-slipper orchid expert, and his wife, Wenqing (they will be new vendors at the POE in February). There were only six tourists in this group,

Skill Session

Cynthia Hill

*How to groom your orchids
and enter them in the POE*

Plant

Opportunity Table

Dan Newman

Hanging Gardens Orchids

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Dennis Westler

Show Chair

Membership Co-Chairs

Florence Inserto

all of whom I already knew. We started our nine day adventure to look for orchids by going through the 2008 earthquake ravaged Minjiang River Valley. We visited two World Heritage Sites of incredible beauty, Jiuzhaigou and Huanglong, that are known for their turquoise-blue waters and tufa ponds as well as for a profusion of *Cypripedium* slipper orchids. In addition, we traveled through Aba Grasslands National Park, a vast area of ethnic Tibetans with their herds of yaks and movable yurts. We saw almost 30 species of orchids in bloom during our adventure of which 8 were *Cypripediums*! Also seen were many wildflowers of incredible beauty, including *Rhododendrons*, *Paeonia*, *Primula* and *Meconopsis*. This experience was one of the best of my life, and I am planning to return this June!



Dinner with the Speaker

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

2013 Membership Directory

The new membership directory is now online on the SFOS website. 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 - flojoinsert@yahoo.com or Claire Zvanski: (415) 341-3085 - czvanski@hotmail.com .

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info@orchidsanfrancisco.org

A California Non Profit 501(c)3
Corporation

SFOS NEWSLETTER February

2013 Dues Are Now Payable

(\$25 per year)

Dues may be payable at any SFOS meeting,
or go the Web site www.orchidsanfrancisco.org

and use *Pay Pal* or mail to

SFOS- Membership

PO Box 27145

SF, CA 94127-0145

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

Thank you!

Welcome New Members

Fritz Bredeek

Nicholas Vitale

Bruce Ward

David and Nancy Jackovich

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

Refreshments

T-B

SFOS members are encouraged to help out with
refreshments, setup and cleanup at Monthly Meetings.
If your last name falls within the letter range T -
B please bring snacks such as fresh fruit, ice cream,
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!

2013

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Minutes of SFOS Board Meeting

Minutes of SFOS Board Meeting, January 10, 2013

Virtually Present: Mary Gerritsen, Steve Beckendorf, Jean Lee, Dennis Westler, Valerie Mountain, Ricki Kohn, Eric Wells, Allison Lehman, Chris Mende
Absent: Jeff Harris, Claire Zvanski, Florence Inserto

I. Vice President's Report

A. Steve: February speaker is Ron Parsons, topic: Miniature Orchids. March speaker is Dennis Szeszko topic: Orchids of Mexico State. April speaker is Daniel Geiger from Santa Barbara, topic: Growing Orchids in Terrariums, with a skill session on macro photography. May is still open, and June's speaker is Ken Cameron on Vanilla Orchids.

II. Membership Report

A. No report. Mary noted that we have had a few new members join this year.

III. Treasurer's Report

A. (Sent in by Jeff) Current account balance is approximately \$110,000 (\$46,400 in checking, \$62,000 in savings, and \$1,500 in our special savings account), noting that ramp up in spending for POE preparations remains our biggest monthly expense. Jeff had to shift funds from savings to checking to cover this activity, and may need to do so again, but this is a good use of our current account setup. The convenience outweighs the impact of the additional fees, and we have begun using our PayPal account now not just for online membership dues collection, but also for collecting payments from some POE vendors. -The international locations seem to appreciate this.

IV. New Business

A. The Membership survey has been completed and the findings were reviewed by the Board. The survey will be posted on the website, with opportunity for SFOS membership discussion at a monthly meeting in the near future.

B. Membership form: The current form is set up for Single membership only for \$25 per year. There was a discussion about setting up another line for a Household membership for 2 people. Steve made a motion to set the Household membership dues at \$40, with each person being able to vote in elections. Dennis seconded the motion and it was passed. Another motion was made by Steve to create a Supporting Member level for \$75, with the offer of a free ticket to the POE Gala night. This was seconded by Allison and also passed.

C. Dennis: POE report. Final confirmation has been received from the Taiwan sponsors, so all advertising can proceed, and posters, fliers, discount coupons and postcards have been printed. Vendor and exhibitor packages have been sent out. A larger supply of wineglasses have been ordered this year to avoid running out. The details for a special event on Friday evening after the show closes are being worked out with the Ferry Plaza Wine Merchants and Off the Grid food trucks. A nominal admission fee will be charged and people will be allowed into the display area of the show to eat & drink. There will be

security and the vendor area will be closed. There will be a concurrent event for Ferry Plaza Wine Merchant wine club members from which we will get a partial payment for day's Fort Mason rental cost, as well as a percentage of the sales made.

D. The repaired sound system was back for the January meeting and worked well for the main meeting, although there was still some feedback during the raffle. (note that the mike used for the raffle is not part of the new speaker system, so the feedback is related to the headphone microphone system).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Mountain

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AOS Awards

AOS Awards

American Orchid Society Pacific Judging Center Web site: www.aospacificcentral.org/
Please check the Web site for the most recent awards.

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SFOS Bulletin Board

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 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

February 5, 2013 7:30pm - SFOS General Meeting

Main Speaker - Ron Parsons

Subject: Finding Orchids in Sichuan Province, China

Skill Session - Cynthia Hill

How to groom your orchids and enter them in the POE

January 25, 2013 - Peninsula Orchid Society show plant entry and judging - AOS and CSA judging, ribbon judging, Perpetual Trophies awarded.

January 26 & 27, 2013 - Peninsula Orchid Society Show and Sale - Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave, Redwood City - 10 AM to 5 PM both days - orchid show, presentations and demonstrations, member sales area, and vendor sales area. Adult admission only \$5. Seniors, disabled, and children 12-16 admitted for \$3. Parking is free.

www.penorchidsoc.org

February 21 - 24, 2013 San Francisco Pacific Orchid Exposition "East Meets West"

Ft. Mason - San Francisco, CA <http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/poe.html>

March 8-10, 2013. 68th Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, "Focus on Orchids". 9 AM - 5 PM.

Earl Warren Show Grounds, Exhibit Hall, 3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA.

(Highway 101 at Las Positas Road). For information, E-Mail: sborchidshow@gmail.com or visit: http://www.sborchidshow.com/show_overview.html

March 9, 2013. 39th Annual Cymbidium Congress. Saturday, March 9, 2013 Annual meeting at 8:30 AM. Lectures during the day with lunch and Awards Banquet in the evening. Contact: Lucia Brandt, Congress Chair 310-826-0994. luciamariebrandt@gmail.com

March 30 & 31 Sonoma County Orchid Society Show and Sale

Santa Rosa Veterans Building, 1351 Maple, Santa Rosa. Sat. - 10 AM - 5 PM, Sun. 10AM - 4PM. Admission \$8. For more information got to www.sonomaorchids.com. Contact Lynne Murrell - Spring Show Coordinator - Show@sonomaorchids.com

April 6 - 7, 2013 The 18th Annual Central Coast Orchid Show & Sale sponsored by Five Cities Orchid Society. Orchid Show Preview Benefit Friday evening April 5, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Saturday show 9 am - 6 pm, Sunday show 10 am - 5 pm. South County Regional Center, Arroyo Grande, CA. For more information and preview tickets: <http://www.fcos.org/orchids/>

May 10 - 12, 2013 Orchid Society of California Show & Sale 2013

Lakeside Park garden Center 666 Bellevue Avenue Oakland, CA 94610 Orchid Displays - Orchids for sale - Growing tips - Free Admission Fri. 12 - 6 PM; Sat. & Sun. 10 AM - 5 PM. orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com

Upcoming Speakers

March -Dennis Szeszko, topic: Orchids of Mexico State

April - Daniel Geiger from Santa Barbara, topic: Growing Orchids in Terrariums

May - TBD

June - Ken Cameron, topic -Vanilla Orchids_

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.

SF POE 2013 Tickets are available for sale on the SFOS Website.

Looking for gift suggestions? Why not give your friends, neighbors and loved ones tickets to the San Francisco POE 2013 being held February 21 - 24, 2013 at Ft. Mason, San Francisco. Multiple day discount tickets are available along with tickets for the Friday Evening Gala and Auction. Single Day tickets are also available and make an ideal gift to let your friends know that you care about them. www.orchidsanfrancisco.org

Member's Corner

San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee

DONATE YOUR EXTRA PLANTS AND SUPPORT ORCHID CONSERVATION

The San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee needs your help! We have started a fund-raising campaign to generate funds to support the conservation of orchids and their habitats. This year at the POE the conservation committee will be selling plants in the Member Sales area, and 100% of the proceeds of plants donated to the conservation committee will go to this worthy cause. A wonderful opportunity to generate some extra space in your greenhouse or growing area, and its tax deductible as well!

How will this work? Very simply. Just fill out the plant sales spread sheet with a three letter code (e.g. your initials) followed by a number for each plant, and include the name of the plant. Then just affix a label to the pot with the same three letter code, number and name of the plant. No need to price the plants. At the top of the sales spreadsheet page, be sure to write "Plants donated to the conservation committee", and be sure to have your contact information on the sheet so we can send you the tax receipt. You can bring your donated plants to the POE on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday morning, and give them to member sales. You may also contact one of the conservation committee members (below) before the show if you would like to drop plants off with one of them or possibly arrange for pickup. If you would like to help by working in member sales to sell the plants, you would be welcome, but it is not required. The conservation committee members will price your plant, add our special conservation committee lilac plant tag, and that is all there is to it.

The conservation committee is open to anyone who is interested. If you would like to participate, please contact one of the committee members.

Conservation Committee Members
Steve Beckendorf beckendo@berkeley.edu
Carl Carter carl.m.carter@sbcglobal.net
Mary Gerritsen meg570@comcast.net
Cynthia Hill hill-cynthia@comcast.net
George McRae elegans@aol.com
Mark Sullivan Painterart@comcast.net

San Francisco Orchid Society Display at the POE

This year the theme is "*East Meets West*", a theme with lots of great possibilities for a wonderful society display. Are you interested in helping out with design and assembly of the society display at the POE? Last year we had a bench-type display, but this year we are going back to the themed display. Casper Curto has volunteered to chair this committee, and would appreciate some additional help. If you are interested in this creative activity, please contact Casper. His email is: caspercurt@comcast.net

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

* * * *

Docents and Jungle Guides are needed at the San Francisco Conservatory of Flowers

The Conservatory of Flowers is excited to welcome a new class of Docents and Children's Jungle Guides. The training will be held this January and February. I hope you will share the information with your members in your next newsletter or at your next meeting. Thank you for your support!

Docents and Jungle Guides are needed at the San Francisco Conservatory of Flowers. Share your love of botany and plants with Conservatory visitors. No experience needed. Jungle Guide tours are offered at no cost to schools, and cover the basics of plant evolution and tropical ecosystems. Docents lead tours for adult visitors on the Conservatory's extensive collection of tropical plants. The 7-session training program will be held at the Conservatory every Wednesday from January 9 through February 20 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.conservatoryofflowers.org/support/volunteer or contact Erika Frank, Director of Volunteer Services at 415-637-4326 or efrank@sfcf.org.

Sincerely,

Erika Frank
Director of Volunteers & Education
San Francisco Conservatory of Flowers
415-637-4326
www.conservatoryofflowers.org



Orchid Conservation Alliance Calendar 2013

Still available for your viewing pleasure -quantities available starting at \$10.00 each and includes shipping. Order now Peter S. Tobias, President - The Orchid Conservation Alliance-

858-784-8215 email: peter@orchidconservationalliance.org

WebSite: www.orchidconservationalliance.org

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Announcements

Preparing Your Orchids for Display at POE 2013

COME ONE, COME ALL! Everyone is invited to bring your plants in for display at the spring show! It's fun to share your blooming beauties with others, to get to know your fellow society members, and it's exciting to see visitors learn about growing orchids by seeing your plants. Here are suggestions for getting your plants in show-ready condition.

For best results, start well before the show date.

One to two months before the show:

Identify likely candidates for display - plants that are beginning to spike, those that bloom regularly in February, ones that can be transported in your car. Begin to stake inflorescences as they get to 6-8 inches tall, preferably using bamboo stakes and twist-ties, so they present themselves at their best. (It's better to begin staking early than too late.) Use a long enough stake to support what is expected to develop . Inflorescences can be trained to be upright or arching. Flower buds will adjust their position towards light, so keep the plant orientation stable once the spike begins to develop. (I do this by keeping the tag at the back of the pot.) Paphiopedilums should be staked so the flower hangs normally, not facing the sky.

Make sure ventilation is good to avoid botrytis fungus spotting. Botrytis is likely when nights are cool and humidity is high, without good air movement, and can cause last-minute problems.

One week before the show

Clean up dead leaves, dried backbulbs, bracts, old spikes and blooms. Gently clean leaves with 50:50 water and milk or lemon juice (top only) and a cotton ball or clean damp soft cloth (do not use on glaucous-leaved plants). Do not use leaf shine products! Trim dead leaf tips at an angle to appear natural, using sterile razor or scissors. Examine the foliage, especially the undersurface, and sheaths, for signs of scale and other pests. Be careful - Inflorescences are soft when immature but as they elongate, can become brittle and inflexible. Keep water off the buds and flowers to minimize damage.

Attach more twist ties to stake if needed, but keep it unobtrusive. Trim a tall stake to flower level to avoid poking out an eyeball. You can use cotton balls to but space between developing buds, if needed - just remove them before watering.

A few days before the POE setup

Select the 'finalists' that will be at their blooming prime for the show. Keep protecting emerging buds from bruising, water damage, botrytis. Begin to think about how best to transport the plants. Planning is critical to success. Suitable boxes, packing, helping hands and a vehicle are all part of successful transport. When selecting plants will be in flower at show time, consider how they can be packed and how those containers can fit in your vehicle.

Day of show setup and Transport:

Soak the plant well and apply some fresh mix/bark topdressing. Consider adding some spanish moss to keep delicate roots covered. Clean the pot or use a decorative slip pot or cachepot to hide the plastic pot. Make sure plant is correctly labeled, legibly, with all names fully written out. Put YOUR NAME tag, phone number, on tape or address label on bottom of pot and on an extra label inside the pot. Make sure you have no hitchhikers! Leave infested plants at home. Hosing off aphids as a quick fix inevitably leaves a few hitchhikers that may spread to other plants at a show.

Check that your inflorescences are staked and tied to display their blooms to best advantage. Try to use stakes of the uniform diameter and color (preferably an inconspicuous green); ties should match each other and be as inconspicuous as possible.

Before loading your plants in the car, pack the inflorescences with soft tissue paper or florist's wrapping paper to minimize chafing by leaves etc. Use temporary stakes to support arching or pendulous spikes and wedge the pots into styrofoam boxes to ensure plant and spike are stable during trip to the show; this should prevent them falling over if you need to stop suddenly. You may want to double pot plants for extra stability in a moving vehicle. (Set plant pot inside a larger (empty) pot or bucket.

While in transit, watch out for sunburn or freezing. Park in the shade if plants are left in the car. Use a picnic cooler to transport tiny pleurothallids in cool, humid comfort.

Unpack carefully, checking that any stakes are still secure. Groom again if needed, and remove any travelling supports. If the plant is normally hung or suspended in your growing area it is your responsibility to ensure that the plant is appropriately staged. Some members have created a variety of stands for their plants: all you need is something that will display the plant to its best advantage. This is particularly important for plants with trailing or hanging flowers.

Enter plants in show - go to the registration desk, ask for help if you have questions, to make sure your plants are entered in the correct class.

Remember, the more flower plants at the show, the better the show. So bring your plants or send them with someone else!! BE PART OF THE PARTY!!

If you have questions about preparing your plants for the big spring event, contact me at hill-cynthia@comcast.net.

See you at the show,
Cindy Hill
POE Ribbon Judging Chair

The Imperiale Youth Prize for 2013 - Pacific Orchid Exposition 2013

The San Francisco Orchid Society is proud to announce that once again we are going to be offering the Imperiale Youth Prize at the Pacific Orchid Exposition. This award, first given in 2010 recognizes excellence in culture for skilled growing and presentation. It is unique and valuable because it is awarded to the "Best Orchid Plant Grown by a Youth, age 17 and under." It is hoped that the award will also encourage a love of orchids in young people as well as an interest in research and conservation.

Eric Imperiale, who has endowed the award, has been a lover of plants since he was a child, seeing the pleasure horticulture gave both his parents and grandparents. He was introduced to orchids after his father Paul began to collect them, and his father's interest became a hobby and labor of love for the whole family. As a youth himself he entered plants in our show, and was the recipient of the old youth award we gave in years past. This love became his academic study, and eventually his career. Presently Eric is a nursery specialist at the San Francisco Conservatory of Flowers where his skills are put to great use maintaining both displays and the important collections.

He decided to endow this award in recognition of the pleasure he got from showing as well as growing his plants, and the pride one gets from recognition of a good job. Our hobby and our society exist and continue because young people choose to pursue the cultivation of orchids and so it serves us, as well as them, to have this award again. The gratitude of the San Francisco Orchid Society to Eric for this trophy is huge and we hope that publicizing it gets more young people to enter plants, and to take up the hobby.

The medal itself is an artistic interpretation of a Dracula orchid rendered in sterling silver. It was designed and fabricated specifically and exclusively for the prize by Eric M. Imperiale.

For a bio of Eric in his own words, read on below. I had intended to excerpt it, but enjoyed his writing so much decided to publish it with minimal editing.

Dennis Westler

Chair - Pacific Orchid Exposition



*The Eric M. Imperiale
Youth Prize Award*

Eric M. Imperiale

Since I was a child, I have had a fascination with plants, seeing Grandparents and parents on both sides grow plants that were ornamental or edible. The first plants I grew were vegetables. Later grew cacti and succulents, carnivorous plants, bromeliads, and orchids caught my interest.

My journey into the world of orchids came shortly after my father's introduction to the marvelous plants. Awe for their beauty quickly became a family hobby and obsession. One plant led to another. Love for a plant turned into passion for a genus. A world of variety, oddities, scent, and color opened up to us and we were enraptured. Weekends were filled with travels to garden centers, orchid shows, orchid growers' greenhouses, orchid society sales, and botanical gardens.

We learned about the SFOS and quickly joined. Meetings were a wild mix of trolling the plant opportunity table and devouring of speakers' talks. Members of the SFOS shared their knowledge and told us about plants that were a must. The SFOS show was an annual pilgrimage where displays amazed and the vendors and society plant divisions flooded our senses and drained our budgets. The few dozen plants we started with grew in number. Soon a small greenhouse was being built in our back yard.

By the age of twelve my skills expanded from assistant to grower. Despite some stigma and a lack of understanding from my peers, my teenage years were infused with orchids.

In the tumultuous formative teen years, orchids helped provide stability and respite from the confusing quest for place in an ever-changing body and mind.

I began entering orchids at the SFOS shows and won ribbons in several open classes as well as winning the youth award twice. Although I continued to grow orchids, I stopped entering orchids in the show and focused on volunteering for the show - even taking days off school to help.

I began working in the orchid industry at the age of fifteen when I entered City College of San Francisco (CCSF) to study horticulture. I started as a grower for an orchid boarding company and over the years gained experience in commercial orchid crops and interior maintenance in commercial and residential settings. I also broadened my skills by working in landscaping.

While at CCSF I applied for and won a scholarship/internship from the SFOS. This gave me the opportunity to care for the CCSF orchid collection and intern at the Conservatory of Flowers (COF). Shortly thereafter I went to Cal Poly, SLO where I also cared for the orchid collection and joined the orchid society. When I came home I returned to the orchid business where I worked for several more years.

Upon graduation from college I tried several other enjoyable and rewarding professions but ultimately found myself drawn to plants. I worked for the City of San Francisco as a gardener and eventually had the opportunity to work at the COF. At the COF I am able to share the wonders of plants and orchids with the young and old from all parts of the world, while furthering the mission of research, conservation, and education.

As the SFOS Orchid Show grew into the Pacific Orchid Exposition, the youth prize quietly disappeared. As an adult I looked back in time with sweet sentimentality and found myself wanting to share with others the learning, community, and opportunities that orchids, the SFOS, and its members shared with me. The future of orchids and this world rests in the hands of the next generation. The passions, gifts, and potential of youth must be fostered in order to preserve and advance the accomplishments of prior generations. The Imperiale Youth Prize is one small contribution ensuring the inter-species success of plant and person.

* * * *

Calling all Ribbon Judge Volunteers for POE!

We are looking for members to participate in ribbon and trophy judging at the upcoming Pacific Orchid Exposition. Judging takes place on Thursday, February 21. Volunteers need to be available from around 11 am through 4 pm (lunch is provided). Familiarity with orchid genera, the categories for judging at POE, and a cooperative, friendly outlook are very helpful. Signup sheets will be posted at the SFOS meetings in January and February. To learn more, or to volunteer, contact Cindy Hill, coelogyne7@gmail.com, (510) 524-1854, by February 10.

* * * *

Volunteers and PLANTS needed to help with the SFOS display

Please SFOS members, bring in your plants for the SFOS display at the POE. You do not need to enter them if you don't want to, but we really need lots of orchids in bloom in order to have a nice display.

Casper Curto is organizing the member SFOS display area and he needs some help with:

1. Someone to research Taiwanese Orchids/Culture/conservation to improve the thematic relationship of the display
2. Some general education information on orchid culture
3. Someone to label the plants that are in the display (this will look nicer than the entry cards)
4. Assistance in collecting props, set up, break down and cleanup.

If you can help, please contact Casper Curto: "Casper R. Curto" caspercuro@comcast.net

* * * *

Pacific Orchid Exposition Seminar Schedule -Mark your calendars now!

Friday

- 11:00 am Dennis Olivas D and D Flowers
"Companion orchids to grow with Cymbidiums"
- 12:30 pm Sergio Garcia " Olompali Orchids, Novato
"Laelia and Cattleya orchids"
- 2 pm Mary Gerritsen, San Francisco Orchid Society
"Masdevallias-selected species and tips for growing them"
- 3:30 pm Chris Mende, San Francisco Orchid Society,
"Making Paphiopedilum Happy"

Saturday

- 10 am. Michael Ooi, Ooi Leng Sun Orchids, Penang Malaysia
"The orchid experience of Malaysia"
- 11:15 am. Roy Tokunaga, H&R Nursery, Hawaii
"Laturia Dendrobiums"
- 12:30 pm Peter Tobias, Orchid Conservation Alliance, Encinitas, CA
"Orchid conservation efforts in South America"
- 2 pm Holger Perner, Huang Duan Mountains Biotechnology, Chengdu, China
"Paphiopedilum: their cultivation and propagation"
- 3:30 pm Paul Isley
"Why Tillandsias are the ultimate horticultural companion for orchids"

Sunday

- 9:30 am Angelic Nguyen, Orchid Design
"Fragrant orchids"
- 11:00 am Jeff Harris, San Francisco Orchid Society
"Orchid photography"
- 12:30 pm Matt Wei-Yi Chen, Ten Shin Gardens, Taiwan
"Chinese Cymbidiums"
- 2 pm Dan Arcos, San Francisco Bromeliad Society
"Growing bromeliads outdoors in the Bay area"

3: 30 pm Janet Lamborn, Agdia
"Orchid virus detection: with Agdia's help you can do it!"

* * * *

POE 2013 - East Meets West is Almost Here

With February 21st barely 8 weeks away, the efforts to mount The Pacific Orchid Exposition 2013 are reaching their height. There will be exciting changes to the show as well as the expected beauty and excitement of the best Orchid Show in the country.

New Weekend Seminar Schedule

Mary Gerritsen has organized a wonderful compliment of lectures that will run through all three days of the show, covering a broad range of topics. There is something for all levels of involvement in the hobby, and I suspect many of you will want to attend several through the weekend. The speakers are members of our society, vendors, and luminaries in the orchid world from all over. This has been quite a task and we owe her thanks for doing this. It is the hope of the board that this will be an ongoing and popular feature of the show in future years. We are offering new ticket options for those who want to hear lectures on several of the days (of course, volunteers are free to attend all three days). The Schedule of the lectures is up now on the Pacific Orchid Exposition page of our website (<http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/poe.html>), as well as our Facebook pages. So you can plan your volunteer time around lectures you would like to see.

Society Display

We are returning to the kind of Society Display that we had a number of years ago, under the direction of Casper Curto who has designed and executed winning displays for the Orchid Society of California, and who directed our old fashioned bench display last year in recognition of our 60th anniversary. This will not be as part of the front entrance display, as was the case in 2011 and for several previous years, but a freestanding display in the show area. He has great plans to address the theme using spectacular props, but will need both help and plants. I urge folks with time on Tuesday Feb 19th, Wednesday Feb 20th, and the morning of Feb 21st to contact him and offer their help in creating what promises to be a fabulous display (and will be in competition for the appropriate trophies).

Of course, to have a truly great display we will need orchids as well as props. Now is a great time to look at your collection and see what you have that might be in bloom. For those that have not entered before, we have put a document on the website that explains the process, and also links to the schedule of the show. Where, when, and how are all covered. You will find this at <http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/enter.html>

More Vendors!

After years of economic doldrums, we are getting back to a point where more and more vendors are eager to participate on our show. We will have more vendors, and specifically more international vendors than we have had in several years. The list of all those who are in so far is up on our website (www.orchidsanfrancisco.org - it is a great resource; more members need to be visiting it!), and most are linked to their websites for those who want to make pre-orders). International vendors add to the prestige of our show as

well as allowing us to get hold of plants we might otherwise not see. Check out their websites, and say hi to them when you are at the P.O.E!

Silent/Live auction

We will once again be having a live auction at our Gala. This was a huge fundraiser for us as well as a very exciting part of the evening. There were three great prizes auctioned, and it looks like we will have similar offerings again. The Silent Auction, Chaired by Lynne Murrell, will go through the weekend, though some items will be Gala only. She helped procure some amazing things last year: wines, orchids, other plants of note, tours and events; and it is looking like there will be some wonderful items to bid on this year as well. If you have, or know of donations that would add to the auction by all means get in touch with Lynne, whose number is on the chair's list below.

Of course, we need your help to get our show running, and insure that those who attend have the best time possible. Some of us have been working throughout the year on this, but most of us, or ideally all of us need to devote some time to making sure this stays the best orchid show in the United States, and one of the best in the world. The list of chairs is printed below, and I urge you all to go through it and speak to one of more of the people listed. There are many tasks, most fun and easy and a great way to feel more involved in your society. It takes hundreds of person-hours to keep this show functioning, more actually than we as a group could provide. But it behooves us to take on the bulk of the volunteer efforts as we are the beneficiaries in terms of speakers, plant tables, rent of the meeting room, and all the other things that our group needs to keep us going. It also enables us to support several charities that improve our hobby as well as the community at large.

Hospitality Chair Needed

Unfortunately, Bob Christensen who chaired the Hospitality Committee for several years will be unable to do it this year. I am looking for someone who is interested in taking over for this year. This is a small but key committee that operates in the sales area dealing with some of the vendor and volunteer needs. Distribution of wineglasses to vendors at the gala, as well as dinner tickets for their gala evening dinner, distribution of the dots that are used to mark sold plants and other items, seeing that the vendors are covered if they need to eat or visit the facilities (important for small vendors who are there by themselves!), and distributing volunteer lunches are the functions of this committee. Bob will be glad to share his volunteer list from the past, as well as his expertise prior, he will just be unable to attend.

If this is of interest to anybody I urge you to contact me at your earliest convenience. I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. It is now time to look ahead to this wonderful event and join in the effort of sharing our enthusiasm, knowledge and the beauty of orchids with greater Bay Area! We need all of us to volunteer and encourage all your friends and family to attend (or volunteer as well). The rewards of our efforts will be great if we do.

Thank you!

Dennis Westler

POE 2013 Member Plant Sales

Information for SFOS Members Who Want to Sell Plants at POE 2013:

1. Each SFOS member will be permitted to have 100 plants only in the Member Plant Sales area at a time. That means that as your individual plants are sold, you can bring in more. Each night I will make a tally of those plants sold and make that information available to anyone who wants to call me about it.
2. Place a label on each plant and make 2 inventory sheets-one for your records and one to give to the chair/sales staff for record keeping.
3. Labels must be legible and that includes the price. Member codes will be 3 letters followed by 1 to 3 numbers. At the time of check-in, your chosen letter code will be checked to insure that there are no duplicate codes. Before being placed on the sales table, plants must be checked in by a SFOS Member Plant Sales volunteer. The volunteer staff is responsible for removing any plants that are diseased or not established. A good rule of thumb is, if you would like to buy the plant, then it is good to sell to someone else.
4. Plants can be checked in for sale starting Thursday morning February 21 from 10 AM until 6PM. Unless your plants are checked in by a member of the POE Member Plant Sales committee, they will not be sold. Please do not leave your plants without official check-in.
5. The San Francisco Orchid Society will assume a 25% commission for the sale of plants at the table.
6. Each person bringing plants to sell must work at the plant sales table for at least 3 hours-it doesn't have to be all at one time. And remember when you work at the sales area, your purpose is to sell EVERYONE's plants, not just one's own plants. Anyone who attempts to sell his or her individual plants without going through the show plant sales procedure will be asked to leave the area with their plants. *No side deals!*
7. Each member who brings in plants is completely responsible for any loss to his or her plants. In other words, we do our best to promote and sell plants and to safeguard them from loss, theft or damage. But it happens.
8. Plants can be removed from the plant sales area on Sunday beginning at 15 minutes before the close of the show. Any exception to this must be cleared with the chair or co-chair of the Member Plant Sales area.
9. There will be no 'saving' plants [removing plants from the general sales table] for anyone other than those folks who are working in the plant sales area at the time of their shift.
10. No plants will be sold at the Member Plant Sales area BEFORE 4 PM on Thursday, February 21. There will be no exceptions. Sales at that time, before the opening of the show, will be for exact amount cash or check only.

Volunteers are needed for all shifts on all days especially Friday all day, Saturday all day, and Sunday AM! It will be first come, first served for volunteers for Preview Night until all shifts are filled. You don't have to be selling your own plants in the Sales area to volunteer here. It is a really neat place to talk about orchids with people and find some of your own treasures. Signup sheets will be available at the February SFOS meeting or contact me at czoltowski@sbcglobal.net or 415-657-3222.

Carol Zoltowski
Member Plant Sales Chair
415-657-3222

* * * *

Committee Chairs
Pacific orchid Exposition 2013

Accounting- Dan Peter (650) 563-9259 dan.peter@sbcglobal.net

AOS Judging- C. Todd Kennedy (415) 664-8851

Book Sales- Maria Chow (510) 317-2032;

maria218@pacbell.net

CSA Judging- To be announced

Corsages- To be announced

Credentials- Jonathan Chang; jteacher@juno.com

Jonathan is currently in need of a co-chair

Front Entrance Display-Tom Perlite

(415)990-1314; tperlite@sbcglobal.net

Hospitality- To be announced

Membership- Claire Zvanski claireandbear@comcast.net,

Florence Inserto floinsert@yahoo.com

Orchid Doctor/Docent Tours

Dennis Westler (415)336-2752;

denniswestler@aol.com

Plant Division- Bill Theiss,

(530) 695-3159;

jokesift@syix.com ,

Gay Matthes (415) 346-9903

Plant Entry- Jean Lee (415)665-6079;

jeanleeorchids@gmail.com

Maureen Clarke (415) 333-4033;

maureenclarke@sbcglobal.net

Gerardus Staal, 13

penhybstaal@comcast.net

Plant HotelAllison Lehman (510)233-5258:

Allison@webbnet.com George McRae elegans@aol.com

Plant Sales- Carol Zoltowski, (415) 657-3222;

czoltowski@sbcglobal.net

Preview Night- Frances Larose, (650)548-6700;

flarose@prmagic.com

Production- Ken Giebel, Mark Felton

Promotion- Frances Larose, Liz Stigge

Property Manager- Ellen Edelson

(415) 731-5924 e.edelson@sbcglobal.net

Ribbon Judging\Trophies & Awards

Cindy Hill (510)-524-1854

hill-cynthia@comcast.net,

Glenn Finch Glennfinch@aol.com

SFOS Society Display- Casper Curto caspercurt@comcast.net
Security- Stanford Stapleton, (415)384-0427; stanford@rkmediasolutions.com
Silent Auction- Lynne Murrell lmurrell@matson.com
Ticket Sales- Mark Sullivan painterart@comcast.net
Sponsorship - Frances Larose
T-shirt & Poster Sales- Alicia Stiles
orchidpleuro@earthlink.net
On-line Ticket Sales- Frances Larose,
Vendor Evaluation- Dennis Westler (see above)

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Special Events



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PACIFIC ORCHID EXPOSITION

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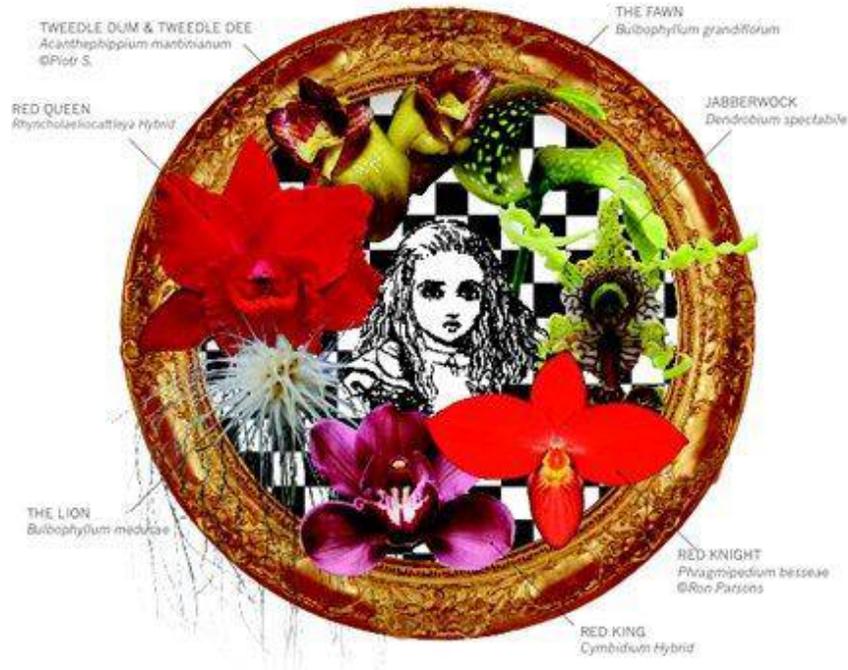
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SFOS Membership
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San Francisco, CA 94127

[Newsletter Submissions](#)

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

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

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