



## San Francisco Orchid Society Newsletter

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### **SFOS Meeting**

**November 2012** Volume 61 Number 11

**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.

### November Speaker

**Maynard Michel**

**Caring for (and perhaps even re-blooming) the ubiquitous Phalaenopsis**

**Maynard Michel**

**Tues. November 6, 2012**



SF Orchid Society

**Tues. November 6, 2012**  
**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**

**Maynard Michel**

***Caring for (and perhaps even re-blooming) the ubiquitous Phalaenopsis***

**Skill Session**

**Sherry Bridygham**

***Semi-hydroponic orchid growing***

**Plant**

**Opportunity Table**

**Tom Perlite**

**Golden Gate Orchids**

**2011-2012 SFOS**

**Officers/Contacts**



Maynard and Helen Michel are retired scientists from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory who started growing orchids as a hobby in 1962. As a retirement venture starting in 1978, they operated a small commercial orchid nursery, Orchids Orinda, specializing in Phalaenopsis, on their property in Livermore. They leased space to two other growers, Fordyce Orchids and Tonkin's Orchids at the same location until closing the entire operation in 2006. They continue to grow orchids as a hobby in a small greenhouse in the back yard. Both are American Orchid Society judges and remain active in judging.

**Caring for (and perhaps even re-blooming) the ubiquitous Phalaenopsis**



For several reasons, Phalaenopsis orchids have become the staple of the commercial orchid trade. They make long inflorescences of shapely, long-lasting flowers, and they do well in temperature and light conditions found in many houses. Because of extensive breeding, Phalaenopsis now come in white, yellow, red, pink and

**President**

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**Jean Lee**

Past President

**Dennis Westler**

Show Chair

**Membership Co-Chairs**

Florence Inserto

[floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com)

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**Plant Sales**

Masaki Asuka

650-588-6753

violet and in dazzling combinations of solid colors, stripes, and spots. This talk will focus on the cultural requirements of Phalaenopsis and will examine how the world-wide distribution of plants at low prices has changed our ideas of what an orchid is. Phalaenopsis are now among the most popular of all houseplants.

Last year a single nursery in Taiwan produced 15,000,000 Phalaenopsis.

**Dinner with the Speaker**

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

**2012 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 - [floinsert@yahoo.com](mailto:floinsert@yahoo.com) or Claire Zvanski: (415) 341-3085 - [claireandbear@comcast.net](mailto:claireandbear@comcast.net)

**2012 Dues**

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

*Thank you!*

**Welcome New Members**

**Alex Wilson  
Rudi Faltus  
Rachel Freeman  
Bernadette Bigley  
Kevin Hill  
Tom Pickford**

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

**Refreshments**

**C - G**

SFOS members are encouraged to help out with

### **Property Managers**

Ellen Edelson  
415-731-5924  
Maureen Clarke  
415-333-4033

[maureenclarke@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maureenclarke@sbcglobal.net)

### **Raffle Tickets**

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Maureen Clarke  
415-333-4033

### **Librarian**

Chris Mende  
[chrismendefoto@aim.com](mailto:chrismendefoto@aim.com)

### **Show Chair**

Dennis Westler  
415-336-2752  
[DennisWestler@aol.com](mailto:DennisWestler@aol.com)

### **POE Sponsorship**

Frances Larose  
650.548.6700  
[flarose@prmagic.com](mailto:flarose@prmagic.com)

### **Webmaster**

Contact: Dennis Westler  
[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  
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refreshments, setup and cleanup at Monthly Meetings. If your last name falls within the letter range **C - G** 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

dra  
win  
g!



## **Minutes of SFOS Board Meeting**

### **Minutes of SFOS Board Meeting, October 8, 2012**

Virtually Present: Mary Gerritsen, Jean Lee, Dennis Westler, Valerie Mountain, Jeff Harris, Ricki Kohn, Chris Mende, Eric Wells

Absent: Steve Beckendorf, Allison Lehman

#### **I. Vice President's Report**

**A.** Speaker at November meeting: Maynard Michael. Skill session & Plant table TBD.

#### **II. Membership Report**

**A.** Jeff noted that Florence Insetto and Claire Zvanski have taken over as Membership co- chairs. They have received the membership materials, including the "Growing Orchids" books to be given out to new members.

#### **III. Treasurer's Report**

**A.** Jeff & Ellen Edelson have inventoried all the books, tee shirts, hats, totes, etc. in the locker. He will have a sample of each item at monthly meetings for members to order.

#### **III. Old Business**

**A.** POE report (Dennis): Tickets are projected to go on sale on 10/15. The poster image is on the SFOS website and Facebook page. The list of vendors with links will be put onto



the website. Commitments from vendors are continuing to come in. Designs for the Tee shirts are being worked on. KCBS will be the media sponsor for the show.

**B.** Orchids in the Park: The speaker sessions were well attended on Saturday, with fewer attendees on Sunday. Dennis felt that Sunday lectures should start later, and that Orchid Doctor was an inappropriate topic because there was no advance publicity. It was difficult to hear in the corner, so a portable speaker would be helpful for next year. We will go back to having food catered, provided we can get it done within reasonable budget constraints, this works better than trying to buy prepared food. The Razzle Dazzle raffle was less successful this year because tickets were not sold at other societies before the show. There also seemed to be confusion with the door raffle and the Razzle Dazzle raffle. The show was an overall success with good attendance, but there were some issues with the back parking lot due to other events going on at the same time.

#### **IV. New Business**

**A.** There will be an SFOS display at POE, rather than the open bench tried last year, and volunteers will be needed to come up with and execute the display design for the show.

**B.** Jean noted that the Conservatory of Flowers wants to work with the SFOS for a display to run from November 2013 to April 2014. This will overlap with the POE for 2014, so there will be discussion on sharing publicity, decent opportunities for the Conservatory display and sponsorship.

**C.** The speaker system is being checked out again to be in good operating condition for next month's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Valerie Mountain

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## **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.

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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](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**

#### **November 6, 2012, 7:30pm - SFOS General Meeting**

**Maynard Michel** - [Main Speaker](#)

Subject: **Caring for (and perhaps even re-blooming) the ubiquitous Phalaenopsis**

Skill Session - **Sherry Bridygham**  
**Semi-hydroponic orchid growing**

**October 20 & 21, 2012 Hanging Gardens Open Greenhouse Sale** Saturday & Sunday  
11 AM - 5 PM. Cool to intermediate/warm growers, Mature plants, seedlings, established and bare-root divisions, Orchid companion plants and Orchid growing supplies.

Shelldance Nursery site, Coast Highway, Pacifica - east side of the highway, 3/10 mile north of Reina Del Mar Avenue. Take the Highway 1 Pacifica exit from Highway 280 or Highway 35. Follow the long curve down the hill, then make a U-turn at Reina Del Mar Avenue, the first traffic light you come to on Highway 1. Turn right into the driveway marked by an orange sign saying "Orchids", and go up the hill to the unpaved parking lot. My greenhouse is the first one on the right side, just before you get to the parking lot. For more detailed directions, email [hgardens@earthlink.net](mailto:hgardens@earthlink.net) or call 415-305-8355.

**October 23, 2012 Marin Orchid Society Fall Auction Silent Auction** Tuesday at 6:30 PM, followed by live auction at 7 PM. Marin Art and Garden Center (MAGC), 30 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Ross, CA. Wine, cheese and other refreshments provided! Auction paddles \$2.00. Website <http://www.marinorchidsociety.com>

**November 3 - 4, 2012 Santa Cruz Orchid Society Show and Sale Sat 9AM - 5PM**, Sun 10AM - 4PM. Soquel High School, 401 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA 95073 (click for map). Admission is free with plenty of free parking! Orchid Plant Award Judging. View unique and endangered orchids. Purchase orchids for your own collection as well as Potting supplies, Orchid Books & Prints. Society members provide culture and growing tips to the general public, and skills sessions for new orchid enthusiasts. For more info, contact Bridget Binko, or <http://santacruzorchidsociety.org>

**November 3 - 4, 2012 Hatfield Orchids Fall Open House Fri -Sun 9 AM - 4 PM.** 3793 Dufau Road, Oxnard, CA 93033. Rain or Shine! Hope you can join us, but if you cant, we can ship to you for free! Call George at(805) 901 0340-, email him at [George@HatfieldOrchids.com](mailto:George@HatfieldOrchids.com), or check the website at [www.hatfieldorchids.com](http://www.hatfieldorchids.com)

**November 3 - 4, 2012 Annual Fall Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House** Sat 8 AM - 5 PM, Sun 9 AM - 4 PM. 1250 Orchid Drive, Santa Barbara, CA. For more information, call 800-553-3387 or check the website <http://www.sborchid.com/events.php>

**November 17th -18th, 2012 Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Fall Orchid Show 10 AM - 3:30 PM** at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History at 2559 Puesta del Sol Road in Santa Barbara. Many flowering orchid plants are on display from members, other orchid societies and commercial growers. The show will include both Society judging and AOS judging of awarded plants of special merit. Several vendors will be present selling plants and growing supplies. Museum admission includes admission to Orchid Show.

**January 26 & 27th, 2013 Peninsula Orchid Society Show** Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave. Redwood City. Plant entry will take place on Friday, January 25th, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

## **Upcoming Speakers**

**December 2012 - Alan Koch, Mini Cattleyas**

## **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**

### **San Francisco Orchid Society Conservation Committee**

The conservation committee is off to a great start, having raised nearly \$1900 from donated plants and the razzle dazzle raffle at Orchids in the Park. Additional fund raising activities are planned, hopefully by next month, the committee will have put together a summary of the objectives, goals and activities for the coming year. If you would like to get involved, please contact Mary Gerritsen [meg570@comcast.net](mailto:meg570@comcast.net).

**Mary E. Gerritsen, President**  
**San Francisco Orchid Society**

### **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](mailto: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**

### **Exciting Changes to Member Sales at Meetings**

At the suggestion of one of our members we are making changes to member sales at our meeting. This is both as a "thank you" to members who have helped us have a very successful year, and as an experiment.

Starting with the September Meeting through the end of the year, members can bring in their plants to sell, and we will not take the usual 25%. The catch? They have to sell their own plants-Asuka will not be selling your plants for you. Sellers will need to bring some money to make change. Members are invited to bring in their extra plants, divisions, even supplies or other items, price them, and sell them.

We only ask two things:

1. You take home the plants you do not sell at the end of the evening. Plants should be put

back in members vehicles before the raffle starts at the end of meeting.

2. As only member can sell plants, you will need to wear your name badge. Both business members and regular members may sell plants.

Hopefully this will encourage a greater diversity of plants for sale, and our members will be able to talk to the seller about the plant they want to buy. Sellers will enjoy a few more dollars in their pockets-hopefully to buy more orchids!

As was the case in years past, we will not require that the people purchasing the plants be SFOS members, although hopefully they will consider joining the society.

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## Announcements

### ORCHIDS IN THE PARK

The **2012 Orchids in the Park Show and Sale** was an all around success with well over 1300 attendees, 18 vendors who brought a wide variety of plants/products for purchase, a captivating flower display, and several well-attended lectures and skills sessions.

Financially we managed to net approximately \$8450. We also raised nearly \$1900 designated explicitly for conservation activities from the combined efforts of the Razzle Dazzle Raffle and Member Plant Sales. Much thanks also goes to key organizers Bob Christensen and Tom Perlite, as well as all the other volunteers who help make the whole thing run smoothly. Special recognition this year also goes to new member Steve Brown for soliciting extra volunteer help from several City College students from the Environmental Horticultural and Floristry Department.

**Thanks goes to the 60 volunteers from the SFOS, friends, neighboring orchid societies and San Francisco City College Environmental Horticulture/ Floristry Department who helped to make this year's Orchids in the Park a success!**

Tri Agustin, Susan Anderson, Steve Beckendorf, Loren Bialik, Jane Bliss, Paul Bourbin, Steven Brown, Mary Jean Campini, Fermina Caraga, Judy Carney, Ron Castagnetti, Chuck Chan, Nellie Chiang, Maria Chow, Bob Christensen, Bill Chu, John Chu, Adrian Comenzind, Lani Desenbrana, Kevin Daly, Mark Dillard, Mike Drilling, Ellen Edelson, Heather Ellison, Kimberly Fraser, Chooi Eng Grosso, Trudy Hadler, Jeff Harris, Dave Hermeyer, Kevin Hill, Florence Inserto, Toby Kanzana, Dave King, Kay Klumb, Ricki Kohn, Jean Lee, Allison Lehman, Yanson Leung, Eric Levenson, Fiona Li, Larry Lundbom, Chris Mende, Ineke Moss, Valerie Mountain, Lynne Murrel, Karen Olson, Tom Perlite, Dan Peter, Mark Picciano, Tina Saravia, Jeanie Scott, Richard Shearin, Paula Shiu, Maria Sierra-Bell, Stanford Stapleton, Mark Sullivan, Eric Wells, Dennis Westler, Miki White, Cynthia Woods, Claire Zvanski.

## Announcements



**Santa Cruz Orchid Show and Sale**  
**Saturday, November 3, 9AM to 5PM**  
**Sunday, November 4, 10AM to 4 PM**

**At Soquel High School,  
401 Old San Jose Road  
Soquel**

**Free Parking  
Free Admission**

-- *Laelia tenebrosa*  
Photo by Frank Drake

**For information, go to:  
[santacruzorchidsociety.org](http://santacruzorchidsociety.org)**

**Presented by the  
Santa Cruz Orchid  
Society and the  
Soquel High School  
FFA/ROP**

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**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 - [claireandbear@comcast.net](mailto:claireandbear@comcast.net)**

**SFOS Membership**  
P.O. Box 27145,  
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](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

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