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The Back Bulb

Marin Orchid Society Newsletter

February 2011

Join us! San Rafael Corporate Center, Tuesday, February 22, 7 PM.
Orchid Doctor at 6:30; Virus / Water Testing, if Requested in Advance

In This Issue

President's Letter
Show and Tell
Wonderful World of Laelias
Adam in Borneo
POE: Natural Wonders

President's Letter



It is really inspiring to see one of our MOS members, Adam Anderson, begin to show some of his orchids and do very well in the judges' eyes. At the annual orchid show of the Sonoma County Orchid Society, of which Adam is also a member, he was encouraged by fellow grower, Mary Ann, to enter one of his plants ... and look what happened!

As a MOS member, the rewarding part of this is knowing that Adam began growing orchids *seriously* less than a decade ago. We have watched him plunge in wholeheartedly, building a greenhouse and also seeking advice from books, society meetings, and fellow society members who are expert growers and prize winners themselves.

Yes, it took concentration and time, but Adam's rewards show that it does not take 30 years to become a serious

Dear BackBulb,

Members and guests enjoyed the new MOS meeting place at the San Rafael Corporate Center. There was more room to spread out plus plenty of space for auction orchids, food, and our educational center. Plus, it was greatly appreciated that the room was set up for the meeting at the time we arrived.

Some of the MOS orchid enthusiasts helped with the MOS POE exhibit "dry run" at the home of our President, Lynne Murrell, on Saturday, February 12. There is plenty of work left to be done and your input is appreciated as we created a tropical scene. ***What is needed most to enliven this tropical scene is your blooming orchids.*** Please have a "coaching talk" with your plants and let them know the importance of being ready on March 3. Questions? Call Gail Beach at 415-269-2184.

Our speaker on February 22 is Fred Schull and his topic is Laelias.

Show & Tell: Bring in your blooming orchids for a special drawing for the first pick of the Opportunity table! Sign up on the Show and Tell sheet on the display table for publication in the Back Bulb. **Reminder:** List the genus and species *legibly*.

Refreshments: Coffee and dessert will be served. If your last name begins with **I through M**, please bring a dessert around **6:30 pm** so we can set it up for the meeting. Members who bring a dessert will be given a free strip of raffle tickets.

Directions to San Rafael Corporate Center:

From 101S:

Exit 452 toward Central San Rafael, continue straight onto Hetherington St., take the 3rd right onto 3rd St., turn left onto Lindaro St. (just past Ritter). Corporate Center is just beyond 2nd St.

From 101N:

Take Exit 452 toward Central San Rafael, turn slight right onto Irwin St., then left onto 3rd St., then left onto Lindaro St. (just

contender. We are here to help all members achieve their orchid-growing goals and enjoy themselves along the way!

MEMBERSHIP New and Renewing

MOS welcomes new members Donna Grant and Nick & Lorraine Dollwet.

Thank you, renewing members: Cynthia Fleig, Bill and Paget Lenarz, Susan Anderson, Selveig Erlingsson, BF and Mary Falk, Carolyn Fisher, Elizabeth Gleason, Barbara Green, Barbara & Blake Herod, Lisa Lee, Patricia Olson, Bill Stott, and Cathy Thompson, and Lynne Murrell.

Quick Links...
[Marin Orchid Society](#)
[American Orchid Society](#)
[San Francisco Orchid Society](#)
[Online Orchid Species Identification](#)
[MOS Blog](#)

Show and Tell Tell Us More!



No quality photos were available for January. Thanks to Timo, Bill, and Ann W for sharing your orchids with us!

Thank you, Ron Ludwig, for

past Ritter). (Note: 3rd St. is one way West, 2nd St. is one way East.)

Lynne The Wonderful World of Laelias



Fred Shull Laelia purpurata

Fred Shull will share his love of Laelias at our MOS meeting on February 22. Fred grows many Laelia species out of doors in the Bay Area and we will learn which ones make that possible. Confused by the recent changes by taxonomists? Fred will share information about the changes.

Orchids have been Fred's hobby and passion for more than 50 years. He grows mostly Cattleya alliance species and hybrids, as well as his outdoors Laelias.

He loves to travel and has attended several World Orchid Congresses. His many trips to Brasil and Mexico have provided insight into how to grow some of the species. Fred is also an accredited AOS judge so this evening promises to be exciting and informative..

An opportunity table will be provided.

Photo by Eric Hunt

January: Adam Anderson in Borneo



Adam Anderson

What an armchair adventure for all of the MOS members who attended Adam's presentation in January! With a good balance between adventure photos and orchid hunting, viewers shirked from the shots of vipers and leeches and were enthralled by Adam's cultural insight and perseverance to locate orchids in the wild.

No photos were available by press time, so please ask Adam to share a few with you if you were unable to attend. You will be glad you did.

Thank you to those who brought refreshments: Elizabeth Gleason, Mary and BF Falk, Cathy, Barbara Herod, Lisa Lee, Carol Goth, Barbara Martin, and one other whose name is illegible! (Please write clearly so we can add your names each month!)

Natural Wonders: Annual Pacific Orchid Exposition



The San Francisco Orchid Society invites you into a world of natural wonders, a world where the lines of fantasy and reality are blurred, a world where you can



PACIFIC ORCHID EXPOSITION
MARCH 3 - 6, 2011
www.orchidsanfrancisco.org

suggesting what we enjoy learning when we present a plant for Show and Tell! A little more detail allows others to benefit from the way you have grown the plant.

Linda Tripp, pictured above, does a great job telling MOS about her orchids. Here is what members are waiting to hear:

Plant name. If it has no ID, then at least the species, or a best guess.

Growing conditions.

- Light: Is it grown on a window sill? If so, then what direction does the window face? If not a window sill, then what? Full sun, partial shade, heavy shade?
- Temperature range
- Frequency of watering.
- Fertilizer? How frequently and what kind?
- Where is it from? What altitude does it normally grow at?
- Any other important details? Do tell!

And remember that one of those who brings plants to show gets first pick of the opportunity table!

MOS Board of Directors

President: Lynne Murrell
457-0836

Vice-President: Susan Anderson (707) 762-2917

Treasurer: Bill Lenarz
457-1642

Secretary: Ron Ludwig
Editor: Sandra Merlo
342-9110

Web Master: John Merlo
342-9115

Member at Large:
Gail Beach

**Community Education
Committee Chair: Glenn
Smith 457-2538**

Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting

March 3 at 6:30 pm at Lynne Murrell's home. Board meetings are open to all members to observe. If you want to attend, please give

practically taste the colors of each bloom, and what you see is too extraordinary to believe...this world is the Pacific Orchid

Exposition.

The 59th annual Pacific Orchid Exposition, held at Fort Mason Center's Festival Pavilion on March 3-6, 2011, is themed "Natural Wonders", encouraging all attendees to plunge into a scenic wonderland and be awed by the raw power of Mother Nature.

The Pacific Orchid Exposition (POE) is the largest orchid show in the country and is aptly named for the extraordinary, lush displays of organic beauty that are showcased every year. The event boasts more than 150,000 orchid flowers from all over the world and offers educational exhibits from local, national and international orchid growers. Because of its diverse microclimate, the Bay Area is widely acknowledged as one of the best orchid growing regions and is home to an array of exotic species.

Each day, docent tours and cultivation tips are given to thousands of visitors as they peruse this magical orchid extravaganza, perfectly pairing visual beauty with expert horticultural education. Professional and amateur growers, as well as orchid societies, will be displaying their unique orchids and rare hybrids, allowing any nature lover the chance to purchase a one-of-a-kind treasure.

The event begins Thursday, March 3rd with the anticipated Gala Benefit Preview night, giving collectors and orchid enthusiasts the first chance to browse and purchase some of the best selections of orchids before the show opens to the general public. The Gala Benefit Preview will feature live music, delicious hors d'oeuvres, fabulous raffle prizes, a silent auction, and wine tasting from over 26 of northern California premier wineries, including winners from the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, the largest competition of American wines in the world.

Fort Mason Center, San Francisco CA, March 3-6, 2011

Thursday, March 3: Gala Benefit Preview, 6:30 - 10:00 pm

Friday, March 4: 10 am - 6 pm

Saturday, March 5: 9 am - 6 pm

Sunday, March 6: 10 am - 5 pm

Cost: Gala Benefit: \$35 advance/online and \$40 at the door (includes wine glass and tastings)

- General Admission: \$12 online/\$14 at the door, Seniors

(65+): \$8 online/\$10 at the door

- Children 12 and under are free (except for Preview night)

[http:// www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

Lynne a call for directions.

2011 Greenhouse Tour with SCOS

SCOS has once again invited MOS members to join them for the bus tour of settings not generally open to the public. This time, the tour is heading south, most likely in May. Seating is limited so get your tickets right away when the final details are announced.

Once again, the cost will be reasonable and so much easier than driving ourselves! Updates will be posted in the MOS Back Bulb and on the SCOS website:
[SCOS website](#)

MOS Purpose and Vision

The purpose of the Marin Orchid Society, our Mission and Vision, is:

- ◆To provide support for those having common interests in the appreciation and culture of orchid plants, to broaden their interests and improve their knowledge
- ◆To acquire and distribute to the members practical and scientific information about the collection, culture and propagation of orchids
- ◆To arrange the dissemination of information through exhibits, lectures, access to publications, and any other means, for the encouragement of orchid growing
- ◆To cooperate in and take part in activities of other Societies with purposes similar to those of this Society

Are there article you would like to see? Topics you would like us to cover? Please bring your ideas for articles to the next meeting or email me at marin.orchids@gmail.com.

Sandra Merlo
BackBulb Editor
Marin Orchid Society

MARIN ORCHID SOCIETY EVENTS - 2011

February 22 - General Meeting with Fred Shull.
March 3-6 - MOS Display at POE, San Francisco; Setup 3/2, takedown 3/6
March 22 - General Meeting with Speaker
April / May TBA - Greenhouse Tour with SCOS.
April 26 - MOS Spring Orchid Auction
May 24 - General Meeting with Speaker
June 28 - MOS Bingo Night and Pot Luck
July 26 - General Meeting; Orchids 101; Mini-Auction
August 23 - General Meeting with speaker
August TBA - MOS Barbecue, date to be announced, at Lynne's home
September 27 - General Meeting with Speaker
September TBA - Greenhouse Tour; date and detail to be announced
October 25 - MOS Fall Orchid Auction
November 22 - Members' Orchids Digital Show and Tell; workshop
December - No General Meeting. Holiday Dinner. Date to be determined.

MOS Membership / Renewal Application

Name _____ new ___ renew ___
Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Phone(H) _____ (W) _____

e-mail _____

Business (optional for roster) _____

Dues are \$25 per person per year, including two at the same address.

Please make checks payable to the Marin Orchid Society.

Amount enclosed _____

Mail to: Bill Lenarz, PO Box 251, Kentfield, CA 94914-0251, or bring this form to a meeting.

OTHER ORCHID SOCIETIES MEETINGS

First Monday: Carmel Orchid Society meeting; The First Presbyterian Church, 501 El Dorado Street, Monterey; [Carmel Orchid Society](#)

First Tuesday: San Francisco Orchid Society meeting; San Francisco County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park, 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way; [San Francisco Orchid Society](#)

First Wednesday: Sacramento Orchid society meeting; Odd Fellows Hall, 1831 Howe Ave. (921-0569), Sacramento; www.sacramentoorchids.org

First Wednesday: Santa Maria Orchid Society meeting; Veterans' Memorial Center, 313 W. Tunnell Street; Contact Chuck Scheitaur at 937-6201

Second Tuesday: Sonoma County Orchid Society meeting; Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa (across from the Fairgrounds) [Sonoma County Orchid Society](#)

Second Tuesday: Monterey Bay Orchid Society meeting; Lincoln Ave Presbyterian Church, 536 Lincoln Ave, Salinas; (831) 663-3953

Third Monday: Orchid Society of California; Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue Oakland; [California Orchid Society](#)

Third Tuesday: Coastal Valley Orchid Society; Lompoc, CA; [Coastal Valley Orchid Society](#)

Third Friday: Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers meeting; San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo; Weegie Caughlan at goldcoastcymgrowers@gmail.com; [Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers](#).

Fourth Friday: Napa Valley Orchid Society; 7:30 pm at Napa Senior Activities Center 1500 Jefferson St. Napa CA 94558

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