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The Back Bulb

Marin Orchid Society Newsletter

August 2011

Join us! San Rafael Corporate Center, Tuesday, August 23, 7:00 PM
Orchid Doctor at 6:30; Virus / Water Testing If Requested in Advance

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President's Letter

*Orchid conservation -
How can MOS make a
difference?*



As a member of the world Orchid community, Marin Orchid Society would like to explore ways to support Orchid preservation and culture. The Board has discussed ways we might do that... perhaps matching member donations, or a straight contribution. But there are countless worthy and cash-strapped initiatives and individuals, so how do we choose the right one(s) to support?

The Board is excited to form a steering committee of member-volunteers to guide this effort, and we are asking

Dear BackBulb,

At the top of the left-hand column, to your left, are clickable links to the articles featured in this August Back Bulb, making it easier for you to quickly locate the information that you wish to read next.

In the President's Letter to the left, Lynne Murrell asks MOS to focus on how MOS can contribute to orchid conservation.

Our August 23 meeting is sure to get a full house to hear Dan Newman clarify the mysteries about Masdevallias. Details in an article below.

Time flies and you want to be sure to reserve your place at the MOS BBQ at the beautiful home of our beautiful president! See article below for the details on how to reserve. We need a count of attendees by August 23.

Refreshments

Appetizers and desserts for this meeting will be provided by MOS members whose *last names begins with F-I*. Mark your calendar so that you have plenty of time to prepare a treat.

Opportunity Table

The opportunity table is from Hanging Gardens.

Directions to San Rafael Corporate Center:

From 101S:

Exit 452 toward Central San Rafael, continue straight onto Hetherton 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 past Ritter). (Note: 3rd St. is one way West, 2nd St. is one way

for your participation. We need 4 or 5 committed members, and someone to be the committee chairperson. This group would identify and investigate worthy Orchid causes, which need to be not-for-profit 501(c)3 organizations, to qualify for an MOS donation. And of course, we would want to be sure that the majority of any contribution would actually be spent on preservation and Orchid culture...not on administration or marketing expenses.

Likely recipients include, but are not limited to The American Orchid Society, Orchid Conservation Alliance, university graduate students ... it will be fascinating to learn about the many global conservation and habitat preservation initiatives, and to vet them for MOS consideration.

Those of you who wish to investigate and guide MOS via the Orchid Conservation steering committee, please send me an email, or give me a call. This will be a rewarding and informative initiative, and MOS will very much look forward to the steering committee's recommendations.

Thank you,

Lynne

MEMBERSHIP New and Renewing

Welcome our new members: Margareta Luff, Dolores Cuerva, and Susan Stuart.

Doubling the size of our society is now possible

East.)

Mysterious Maxillarias - Dan Newman of Hanging Gardens



Maxillaria sanguinea

Dan Newman started growing orchids in 1982. His first successful subject was a Dendrobium hybrid bought as a tiny seedling at a lei stand in the Honolulu Airport. When that plant finally grew up and bloomed a few years later, he was hooked! By 1996 he had **350** orchids in a one-bedroom apartment! That year he moved his plants into a rented commercial greenhouse in San Francisco.

Dan took over the large species collection of his friend and "orchid mentor", Walter Teague, and his hobby evolved into his nursery, Hanging Gardens. In 2000, Dan started growing orchids full time, then moved to a larger greenhouse in Pacifica a few years later. He currently has 12,000 to 15,000 plants, mostly cool to intermediate growers (it's hard to maintain warm conditions in Pacifica!). This number includes a few hybrids, but the great majority are species. He also grows a variety of "companion plants", those that share the natural habitats of orchids.

Dan joined the San Francisco Orchid Society in 1987, serving as its president in 1996/97. In recent years, he has spoken on a variety of topics to orchid societies in California and elsewhere.

MOS members had an opportunity to visit Hanging Gardens on the annual Sonoma County Orchid Society's bus trip. What a treasure trove of beautiful orchids you absolutely will not find at your local grocery store! Dan will bring a selection of plants for sale to those who attend his talk.

July Meeting Review: *Orchids 101*



**Maxillaria
fractiflexa**

with our larger meeting space. Simple math: when each member brings in one new member this year, think how we will all benefit!

Quick Links...

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

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

September 1 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 Lynne a call for directions.

AOS Repotting Videos

Did you know that there are many excellent videos on the AOS website and also on YouTube? Whether you want to pot a keiki, decide whether to repot or divide, recognize mite damage, or even repot a cattleya, there is a wealth of information available to you.

Here is the AOS link:



Linda Tripp, Orchids 101

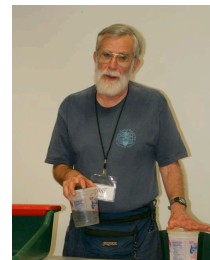
The July meeting was our annual Orchids 101 where the presentation was targeted at our guests and new members. Speakers included Lynne Murrell, Linda Tripp, and Bill Lenarz. And we had a grand show 'n tell table, featuring a varied assortment of beautiful blooming plants grown by MOS members.

Speakers reviewed the main ingredients in successful orchid growing:

- light,
- water,
- temperature,
- airflow,
- nutrition,
- attention,
- pests, and
- regular repotting.

And we all continue to learn the *first* important consideration - choosing an orchid that is healthy and that *works for your growing environment!*

Bill Lenarz simplified repotting, showing us how to make it easy and also clean so that our orchids stay healthy. Thank you, presenters.



Bill Lenarz on Repotting

- Photos by Ron Ludwig

MOS BBQ July 28, 4-8, Kentfield (Members Only)



Great BBQ, Gorgeous Day,
Fun for All

The annual MOS Members' BBQ at Lynne's house will be Sunday August 28, and we'll start it an hour later this year, to take advantage of the cooler evening temperatures: 4pm to 8pm. (Just watch, the fog will be in, and we'll need parkas and gloves!) This is for members only, and members may bring 1 guest, \$10 per person. It is definitely the time to make your reservation, as space is limited on Lynne's back patio. **The early bird gets the**

[AOS Orchid Care Video Library](#)

For YouTube, try a search such as 'repotting an orchid' and you will find quite a few videos on any one topic. AOS itself has probably put out close to 100 videos.

Show and Tell



Linda Tripp



Ron Ludwig



Lynne Murrell



Bill Lenarz

BBQ!

To confirm your reservation, please make your check payable to Lynne Murrell, and mail it to PO Box 551, Ross CA 94957-0551. For the flyer, [click here](#).

California Orchids Fall Sale



Mary Nisbet will open California Orchids for a fall sale on Sunday, September 24, from 9-4. Visiting her orchid nursery lets MOS members view her beautiful orchid logs, recently featured in AOS Orchids magazine.

Why not make a day of it by carpooling to California Orchids and later enjoying lunch with friends in beautiful Bolinas!? For the flyer and the details, [click here](#).

Join the Tour to the World Orchid Conference!



How we have all enjoyed the talks that Paul Chim has given about the World Orchid Conferences that he attends in China. The 2011 conference in Singapore runs from November 13-20. Paul has worked with Avon Sun at China CYTS Tour, Inc., in San Francisco to put together a special 19-day

tour package for orchid lovers, taking advantage of group discounts.

For additional information about the World Orchid Conference, please go to <http://www.20woc.com.sg/site/>.

For information about the special tour package, [click here](#).

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



Mary Ann Aleandri

◆To cooperate in and take part in activities of other Societies with purposes similar to those of this Society

The Back Bulb is always looking for timely articles on topics you find interesting and are ready to share! Email me at marin.orchids@gmail.com.

Sandra Merlo
BackBulb Editor
Marin Orchid Society

MARIN ORCHID SOCIETY EVENTS - 2011

August 23 - General Meeting with Dan Newman, 'Mysterious Masdevallias'

August 28 - MOS Barbecue, for members only, 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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