



Marin Orchid Society

Non-profit 501(c)3 Corporation
Affiliate of the American Orchid Society



MOS April 25, 2023, In-Person and Virtual Meeting,
7:00 p.m.

[Visit Our Website](#)

April President's Letter



Dear MOS Friends,

The Santa Barbara Orchid Show did not disappoint. It was a great group of exhibits. There were some spectacular plants (you saw some of them in the photos I contributed to the movie Julie created and shown at the March MOS general meeting). The vendor area was huge and unfortunately, I brought home more plants than I'd planned. About half the purchased plants were not orchids; I'm getting into succulents (I just bought 3 more today near Jenner) and tillandsias. I brought home 2 *vandas* (one with buds which opened into beautiful, fragrant flowers) along with several

Tillandsia Caput medusae that both have flower spikes and a couple of miniatures. Thursday night I enjoyed dinner with Cathy and Carolyn. It was interesting that David Edgely from the Mount Baker Orchid Society, with which we share our speakers and meetings, recognized me from that little small picture in the Zoom meeting display.

In my last President's Letter re travel to Santa Barbara, I speculated on the possibility of Highway 5 being closed due to weather. Well, 5 on the way home was not an issue nor driving the extra 2 hours to see the kids. Well, therein lies the issue. It poured the entire time in Santa Barbara. It bucketed down overnight Thursday to Friday. By the time I left to head farther south it was raining livestock. 101 is under construction from Santa Barbara to

Highway 405, traffic was heavy, and visibility was about 6 feet. That expected 2-hour drive turned out to be just slightly over 5 hours.

A number of my plants are now blooming. I have 5 *Cymbidiums* in the yard that are either in flower or where the buds are working on opening. Among those are one green, one that appears to be either brown or purple, and one a cream color. The others are not developed enough to guess the colors. On the other side of the house are 2 miniature *Cymbidiums*, one opening with yellow/orange flowers (in the Show and Tell for this month) and one that looks like it will be purple.

In my greenhouse, I have 2 *Dendrobiums* and the aforementioned *Vanda* bloomed. The greenhouse smells great because all 3 of those plants are fragrant. In the house I have a *Zygopetalum*, a *Maxillaria tenuifolia*, and *Leptodes* blooming. I've moved the *Dendrobium kingianum* from the greenhouse into my living room so I can enjoy the fragrance. That plant alone is filling the front half of the house with its fragrance. When I enter the house from the carport side, I'm hit with the fragrances of the *Zygopetalum*, *Maxillaria*, and *Dendrobium*. There's a hint of coconut all through the front of the house.

Well, on to other things,

Please remember that the April meeting is live at Kol Shofar. The speaker, Jeff Trimble, is bringing plants to sell and for the opportunity table. There will be a speaker dinner that night.

I am working on making Kol Shofar our permanent meeting site. Kol Shofar may be bit off of the main corridor in Marin, but they have an excellent meeting room and infrastructure to support Zoom meetings. We will continue to have hybrid meetings. We share our meetings with the Mt. Baker society. Plus, the hybrid meetings do allow those unable to attend in person to still attend the meetings.

The Show and Tell online links for all the months are elsewhere in this Back Bulb. If you would like to share photos of your lovely plants, please send the photos to the MOS email. To make them easier to find, please put "Show and Tell" in the subject line.

If you send photos to be added to the Show and Tell site, and if you will not be at the meeting to talk about them, please add a short description to the photo in the email.

And, if you'd like to share your plant during the meeting, please feel free to do so. We'd love to see what you have blooming.

As visitors are always welcome to attend our meetings, please feel free to share the link to the meeting.

Ron

**April 25: In-Person and Virtual Meeting
7:00 p.m.**

We are happy to resume In-person meetings on a regular monthly basis at Kol Shofar, 215 Blackfield Drive, Tiburon, combined with a Virtual Zoom Meeting. (Some members find it helpful to have a headlamp to light the path after the meeting (to be hands-free for holding orchids!))

Time: April Meeting officially starts at 7:00 pm PST. Those participating through Zoom - PLEASE join the Zoom meeting well ahead of time so that you are settled in. To join Zoom Meeting click here: [MOS April Zoom Meeting](#)

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82158733163# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,82158733163# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 821 5873 3163

[Local Number](#)

April Speaker - Jeff Trimble Miltoniopsis Culture: Its Species & Hybrids



Jeff Trimble started growing orchids in 1972 when his mother gave him two flowering *Cymbidiums* she did not want. He joined his first orchid club in 1975 and, by 1978, was show chairman for the Peninsula Orchid Society, a member of the Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society and president of the Malihini Orchid Society.

In 1980, he was asked to be the VP, then president of the San Francisco Orchid Society. Jeff took on the task of Show Chairman at the Pacific Orchid Exposition one year and later, co-founded Orchids in the Park. Jeff is Past

President of the Peninsula Orchid Society, Past President of the Cymbidium Society of America, Past President of the Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers, and a former CSA Judge and judging chairman for Northern California. Currently, Jeff is the President of the Sacramento Valley Cymbidium Society and also an AOS Associate Judge.

Jeff will supply plants for the Raffle table and have plants to sell.

His talk will be on *Miltoniopsis* culture and its species and hybrids. Jeff will be showing the species and the different colors you can get from breeding the three major species to create them.



Jean Allen-Ikeson - March Speaker Review Oncidium Fuscatum & Its Hybrids

On March 28, we had the privilege of having Jean Allen-Ikeson talk to us about the use of *Oncidium (Onc.) fuscatum* in *oncidium* hybridizing and how this species has contributed to many of the beautiful hybrids that we enjoy today. If you wish to view the talk in its entirety contact Ron Ludwig for a link to the presentation.

Onc. fuscatum is not an obvious choice for hybridizing as the flower doesn't have good form. However the species has several desirable characteristics including a branched inflorescence that often takes a flattened Christmas tree form in many of its hybrids. It can bloom twice a year, the flowers are long-lasting and the solid color on the segments is typically dominant in the hybrids. In addition, *Onc. fuscatum* has a broad temperature tolerance, growing in cool-intermediate to warm habitats.

The flower type forms are either pink, mauve or purple, all with white edging. There is a lot of variation of form in species in the wild. There are several varieties, including 'Weltoni' where the base color of the petals and sepals is yellow so the purple overlay gives brown. This variety has been used a lot in hybridizing. The Panama variety is more like type but has an overall flush. Goodale Moir used a cross between this and Weltoni variety as a base for hybridizing. Most of the Hawaiian hybrids arose from that cross.

To give a sense of how important *Onc. fuscatum* has been to *oncidium* hybridizing, as of 2022 there were 129 F1 hybrids and 899 total progeny. Jean noted that there have been four waves of hybridizing with *Onc. fuscatum* including by Charlesworth & Sanders from 1905-23 in UK, by Goodale Moir from 1953-1980 in Hawaii, E. Iwanga, Rod McClelland & others from 1969-2000 in Hawaii, CA, FL & JP etc and most recently by Jim McCully and Glen Garfield from 2000- present in Hawaii.

Jean next discussed some of the early *Onc. fuscatum* hybridizing. One of the earliest hybrids was *Onc. lairesseas* registered in 1905. It was a primary hybrid of *Onc. fuscatum* x *Onc. alexandrae*. It was a nice hybrid with bigger flowers, a nice form and temperature tolerance. *Onc. Irene*, registered in 1918, was a primary hybrid of *Onc. fuscatum* and *Onc. hastilabum* where one can readily see the Christmas tree form inflorescence. Some of the cultivars show distinct clear color, eg cultivar 'Mamau'.

Goodale Moir was also one of the earlier hybridizers of *Onc. fuscatum*. Jean called him the mad hybridizer because he made some seemingly crazy crosses, but he kept great records which is helpful in hybridization. *Onc. debutante*, made by Moir (although not according to OrchidWiz) was a primary cross of *Onc. fuscatum* and *Onc. cariniferum*. It had lots of flowers.

Onc. fuscatum contributes to red in hybrids and Moir made hybrids where that came through. A cultivar 'Red Wonder' of his primary *Onc. fuscatum* hybrid *Onc. royal* had great color but wasn't floriferous. A F1 (*Onc. royal monarch*) of *Onc. Royal* was crossed back to *Onc. fuscatum* to give *Miltochilidium Panama*, which had great red color and more flowers. *Onc. fuscatum* turns out to be a fantastic species for producing red in hybrids.

Another primary *Onc. fuscatum* hybrid that Moir made was *Onc. Ruffles*. It had bigger flowers that were red and was very fragrant due to its *Onc. sotoanum* parent. Another Moir GM primary *Onc. fuscatum* cross was *Onc. Ka Moi*. This particular cross was not so great in itself but when crossed with *Onc. Heonum* (a complex odontoglossums hybrid) gives *Onc. Kamono* which had good red color and form especially for an F2 from *Onc. fuscatum*.

Jean next talked about the next wave of hybridizers including E. Iwanaga in Hawaii, McClelland's (Jeff Britt and others) in CA, Milton Carpenter in FL (to get warmth tolerance) and Negate Engel in JP. Among the notable *Onc. fuscatum* hybrids from this period are *Onc. Wildwood* (McClelland) and the *Onc. fuscatum* F2 hybrid *Jungle Monarch* (Milton Carpenter) and its F1 *Onc. Jungle Cat* that has an intense red lip. Other notable *Onc. fuscatum* primary hybrids that were important in hybridization include *Onc Ron's Rippling Delight* and *Onc. Rustic Bridge* (McClelland's). *Onc. Ron's Rippling Delight* is an important parent in modern era hybridizing as the *Onc. schoderianum* parent contributed longer and glossy segments. *Onc. Rustic Bridge* has been the stepping stone to important hybrids including *Onc. Wildcat* and *Onc. Lorraine's* Fourteenth WOC both from McClelland's. *Onc. Wildcat* is the most awarded oncidium. It has lots of flowers, terrific coloring and a lot of different color patterns. Some of the variety of color forms and patterns may be due to *Onc. Crowborough*, the other parent besides *Onc. Rustic Bridge*. One of the parents of *Onc. Crowborough* was *Onc. Golden Guinea* which had non-fading buttercup yellow flowers which it passed on to its progeny.

Jean next talked about modern era *Onc. fuscatum* hybridizers including Glen Barfield and especially Jim McCully. One of McCully's primary *Onc. fuscatum* hybrids was the pure alba hybrid *Onc. Irish Mist* that he used to create new colors in his crosses. It took him four generations of crosses and backcrosses to get this inbred primary alba hybrid. Another trait that McCully was breeding for is fragrance. He crossed *Onc. Ruffles* (*Onc. fuscatum* x *Onc sotoanum* (fragrant)) with *Onc. Sharry Baby*, also fragrant probably due

to 25% *Onc. sotoanum* in background to get *Onc. Heaven Scent* which is fragrant and has great color. Another hybrid from Jim McCully which Jean called the most important hybrid resulting from his *Onc. fuscatum* breeding is *Onc. Catatante*, which he has used to make some great hybrids *Onc. Catatante* has a lot of good sized flowers and a stunning presentation. Many of its cultivars have butterscotch flowers due to a lineage going back to *Onc. Golden Guinea* on one side.

Finally, Jean talked about growing these *Onc. fuscatum* hybrids. These *oncidium* hybrids typically have a wide temperature tolerance, hybrids with *odontoglossums* typically have a warmer temperature tolerance than do *odontoglossums*. Because these plants are fine rooted, they should stay damp but not soggy. She uses a slow release fertilizer Miracle Gro Shake and Feed 10-5-15 with Ca and Mg for tomatoes and fruit trees. She applies 1/2 tsp for a 3-4" pot and 1 tsp for a 5-6" pot every 2 months in summer and every 3 months in winter. She typically pots with clay pellets or gravel in the bottom of the pot, sphagnum moss on top and bark in between. Light should be somewhere between that for *cattleyas* and for *phalaenopsis*. We thank Jean for an informative and enjoyable talk

Submitted by Patricia Olson



AOS Corner April 2023



Meet us in San Diego this Spring

The American Orchid Society's spring Members meeting will be held in conjunction with the San Diego County Orchid Society Show "Orchids of the Earth" at Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, San Diego. As always, you can expect to see some good speakers this year.

Spring Members' Meeting: April 19th - 22nd
Show Dates: April 21 - 23AOS
Judging: Friday, April 21st @ 10:00 AM

Spring is in the Air (finally)

The lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are coaxing our Orchids out of their winter dormancy, and they are showing beautiful new roots and new growths. That means it is repotting season, and time to get to work! Check the AOS website for links to the [March-April checklist](#) of things to do (see link bottom of page March/April Growing Tips and also here is a link to [Orchid Pests & Diseases](#) to help you identify and control the pesky bugs that are awakening now as well.

It is also peak blooming season for many Orchids, as they reward us for our diligent care.

MONTHLY AOS ORCHID JUDGINGS:

- [Pacific Central Judging Center](#) hosts 2 monthly: **The first Tuesday evening (4/4/23)**, during the regular SFOS monthly meeting at the Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park. **AND the third Saturday (4/15/23)** at Filoli Historic House & Garden, 86 Canada Road, Woodside CA. Questions? Contact James Heilig, heiligja@msu.edu
- [California Sierra Nevada Judging Center \(CSNJC\)](#) hosts 2 monthly – **the first Wednesday evening (4/5/23)**, during the regular SCOS monthly meeting at Odd Fellows Hall, 1831 Howe Ave, Sacramento. And the 3rd Sunday morning in Lincoln CA. **4/16/23** at Dueling Dogs Brewing, 3030 Barrett Park Lane, Lincoln. Questions? Contact Lynne Murrell: lynne.murrell@outlook.com

Until we meet again, here's to Beautiful Orchids in 2023.

Lynne Murrell
Your AOS Representative



March Show & Tell
We are back to In-Person Meetings & Live Show & Tells

Show and Tell

Here are links to past few months of MOS Members



Show & Tell. Thank you for your outstanding submissions. Submit up to three for April Show and Tell to marin.orchids@gmail.com

Click here to view:
2022

[May Show & Tell](#)

[June Show & Tell](#)

[July Show & Tell](#)

[September Show & Tell](#)

[October Show & Tell](#)

[November Show & Tell](#)

2023

[January Show & Tell](#)

[February Show & Tell](#)

[March Show & Tell](#)

[April Show & Tell](#)



New Species of Orchid Discovered in Japan and its Petals look like they are spun from Glass!



Populations of the floral newcomer were discovered in Tokyo prefecture near Hachijo Island, inspiring the species name *Spiranthes hachijoensis*. Orchids in this genus – *Spiranthes* – are called “ladies' tresses” for their resemblance to wavy locks of hair. *Spiranthes* have a central stem, around which grow an ascending spiral of tiny, bell-shaped flowers that can be white, pink, purple or yellow.

There are about 50 species of *Spiranthes* found in Eurasia, Australia and the Americas, typically in temperate or tropical regions, and these flowers have been known in Japan for hundreds of years, according to the study. Click link to read the full article: [CNN new species discovered.](#)



Congratulations Lynne

Mexicoa ghiesbreghtianum

Lynne's entry (grown by Daniel Heller) won best in show for species and for oncidium alliance at recent Sonoma Orchid Society Spring show.



ORCHID PESTS

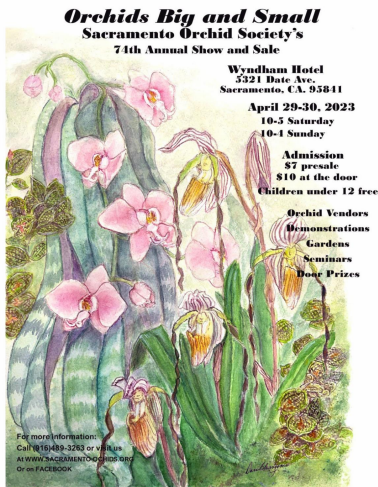
Our March Speaker, Jean Allen-Ikeson, shared her formula for successfully dealing with some orchid pests. Various growers use a variety of mixtures to combat common pests.



She treats for bugs with Palmolive original dish soap at 1 tbsp. per gallon of water. After cleaning the visible bugs off, she sprays the entire plant, drenches the pots and surrounding bench and walls.

Repeat this every day for five days, then once every three days for 3 weeks then once every seven days for 3 more weeks. BE SURE to test this on your plants. If they have very soft leaves like *masdevallia*, double check.

Mealy bugs and other pests that continually plague orchids, particularly when grown indoors. Jean says "No alcohol---or pesticides. I believe what it does is to suffocate the crawlers--Palmolive also has antibacterial and some antifungal activity to help prevent infection from insects biting or feeding on the plant and leaving a wound that is open to infection. Nothing works better than this on aphids but it also gets the 'microscopic crawlers of scale and mealybugs.'"



Orchids Big & Small, Sacramento Orchid Societies 74th Annual Show & Sale

April 29-30, 2023

Saturday 10-5

Sunday 10-4

Wyndham Hotel
5321 Date Avenue
Sacramento, CA
For more info call 916 489 3263 or
www.sacramento-orchids.org



RENEW YOUR 2023 MOS Membership

We enjoy you as a member of The Marin Orchid Society. Our members are the best; friendly, knowledgeable, and willing to share and to volunteer for MOS activities.

It is time to renew your membership for 2023. Marin Orchid Society membership is \$25 per household per year. MOS activities each year include: 10 meetings (7 or 8 of which feature great speakers, one which is devoted to our members), our Holiday Dinner and our member summer BBQ, plus one auction with great deals on orchids and other treasures. One meeting includes our member ice cream social/fun night.

Beyond that, we create award-winning displays at the Pacific Orchid Exposition and at the Marin County Fair when these events are operative. These are great opportunities for current members to display your orchids to huge crowds.

You can renew in a couple of ways:

- Mail your check, made out to "Marin Orchid Society", to Naoko Nojiri at: Marin Orchid Society, PO Box 14, Larkspur, CA 94977.
- Or you can do it online by going to: [click here - Marin Orchid Society Membership Form](#) Simply complete the form and mail it in.

Marin Orchid Society is a 501(c)3 organization so some portion of your membership (and donations to MOS) may be tax deductible (please check tax regulations).

Thank you for being an MOS member. We will see you at upcoming MOS events.



SOME NURSERIES FOR YOUR ORCHID SHOPPING PLEASURE THAT ARE OPEN CERTAIN DAYS OF THE WEEK, BY APPOINTMENT ONLY OR TO ORDER ON LINE.

TELEPHONE OR EMAIL TO REQUEST DETAILS:

Brookside Orchids, 2718B Alpine Rd,
Menlo Park, CA
brookside-orchids.com 650 854 3711

Golden Gate Orchids, 225 Velasco
Ave., San Francisco, CA
tmperlite@gmail.com 415 467 3737

Shelldance Orchid Gardens, 2000
Hwy 1, Pacifica, CA
shelldance.com 650 355 4845

For supplies: Flori-Culture Orchid



VectorStock.com/2307996

D&D Flowers, 169 First Ave., Daly
City, CA
d.olivas@comcast.net 925 969 1246

Gold Country Orchids, 390 Big Ben
Rd, Lincoln, CA
gcorchids@aol.com 916 645 8600

Paph Paradise, 390 Big Ben Rd.,
Lincoln, CA



MOS Board of Directors - Join Us!

President - Ron Ludwig, Treasurer - Naoko Nojiri, Secretary - Cathy Thompson, Members at Large - Carolyn Fisher, Terumi Leinow. You may reach the MOS Board by calling: 415-895-0667.

Next Board meeting is April 6, Virtual Zoom meeting, 7:00 pm. Members are welcome to attend with advance notice. Contact Ron for details.

2023 MOS Memberships are now due. Mail your check to: Marin Orchid Society | P. O. BOX 14, Larkspur, CA CA 94977.



The (Orchid) Doctor Is In!

- Have a problem plant, or maybe just need a little advice on which orchids might grow well in your conditions, when to water, or why your orchid just will not bloom?
- Ask the Doctor! Just send us an email with your orchid questions. Simply write "Orchid Doctor" in the subject line of your email: marin.orchids@gmail.com.



Useful Resources for Orchid Lovers

Useful Links:

- [Marin Orchid Society](#)
- [American Orchid Society](#)
- [San Francisco Orchid Society](#)
- [Online Orchid Species Identification](#)
- [California Sierra Nevada Judging Center](#)

American Orchid Society: AOS.org

- You may download a beginner's guide to growing orchids.
- Membership is inexpensive--digital membership is available--and includes online seminars and more.

- AOS Judging Centers Info and Locations- [AOS Judging Centers Nearby](#)



Marin Orchid Society 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.



2023 Marin Orchid Society Calendar

April 25: In-Person Hybrid Meeting, Jeff Trimble

May 23: Virtual Meeting, David Edgeley

June 27: In-Person Hybrid Meeting, Carole Buele

July 25: In-Person Hybrid Meeting, Patricia Harding

September 26: In-Person Hybrid Meeting, Chenhao Hsu

October 28: In-Person Meeting, Auction Night

Join or Renew Your
Membership



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, Santa Maria.

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 Avenue, 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.

Second Friday: Napa Valley Orchid Society; 7:00 pm at Napa Senior Activities Center 1500 Jefferson St. Napa CA 94558. www.nv-os.org

Fourth Friday: Peninsula Orchid Society, 7:00 pm, San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo. [Peninsula Orchid Society](#)

[March/April Growing Tips](#)

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