



Sonoma County Orchid Society Newsletter

A California Non Profit 501(c)(3) Corporation

Special points of interest

- *This Month's Board meeting is on October 18, at Ann Possinger's at 6:30pm.*
- *Oct 8, open greenhouse at Eggleston's.*
- *Nov 13, Open Greenhouse at Rathbun's.*
- *Dec 13, SCOS Holiday Party.*

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October 2011

Meeting Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

Veteran's Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA

October Speaker

Our speaker for October is **Jason Makoto Fischer**

Jason Fischer works and helps manage Orchids Limited in Plymouth, Minnesota USA with his father Jerry Fischer. Orchids Limited opened in 1978 in Minnetonka in a small retail greenhouse off of Highway 12. In 1983, Orchids Limited moved to Plymouth where they have grown into a mid-sized operation of 4 greenhouses with 15,000 square feet of growing space, a shade house, and laboratory.

Jason has had a life-long education in orchids mainly from the opportunity to be raised in a family orchid business. Jason's educational interests were strongly influenced by Japan. He studied the Japanese language and culture for 6 years in high school and at the University of Minnesota. Jason lived in Japan from 2001 to 2003, and upon return decided to import Japanese orchid species and add a new niche to the business.

Having worked for his father since the age of 5, Jason has learned the orchid world from the business and hobbyists perspective. He took interest in orchid hybridization and lab work around 14 years of age, and first started breeding with phalaenopsis, which later on lead to paphs, phrags and miscellaneous hybrids.

Jason's first lecture on *Neofinetia falcata* at the Minnesota Orchid Society in 2004 was the kick-off for an amazing journey of lectures across America and Canada. He has a passion for orchids, and the communication skills he developed in Japan as an English teacher have helped him create interesting lectures that won't put the audience to sleep.

Jason enjoys photographing orchids in situ, and has climbed mountains in Japan to photograph many species such as *Cymbidium goeringii*, *Gastrochilus matsuran*, *Thrixpernum japonicum* and *Calanthe discolor*.

Experience:

Has lectured for over 30 different orchid societies in the US, Japan and Canada.

Speaker for the 19th World Orchid Conference

Coordinated the Orchids Limited laboratory from 1998 to 2000

Currently in management, breeding and marketing for Orchids Limited



PLEASE JOIN US FOR DINNER WITH OUR SPEAKER

Dinner with Jason will be at Sea Thai Bistro, 2323 Sonoma Avenue at 5:00 p.m. http://seathaibistro.com/?page_id=360. Please plan to come a little early so that we may be back to the meeting room by 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Kathie Hile, 707-585-1912 or email jph.kah@gmail.com by Monday, October 10, 2011.

OPEN GREENHOUSE FOR OCTOBER

October 8, 2011, at Daryl and Linda Egglestons's, 7505 Malone Rd, Forestville, (707) 887-2412.

From 101 at Santa Rosa: Take RIVER RD. Exit; Turn WEST onto RIVER RD. Go west 6 miles to the intersection of TRENTON/HEALDSBURG RD. (This intersection is just after you have gone over the only hill on River Rd.) Turn LEFT (south) onto TRENTON/HEALDSBURG RD. and go 100 ft. to stop sign. Turn RIGHT (west) onto OLD TRENTON RD. Go 1 mile to MALONE RD. on the LEFT. (There is a gate on Malone Rd. at its entrance) Follow MALONE RD. up the hill for 1/3 mile, (about half way up the road Y's, stay LEFT) The Eggleston's home is on the LEFT at the top of the hill.

President's Corner

At this month's meeting, we welcome Jason Makoto Fischer. Jason was born to a Japanese mother, an American father and raised in the US. Jason has had a life-long education in growing orchids from working with his father since age 5. He earned his allowance by working in the greenhouse. At age 14 his interest turned to orchid breeding and lab work. Around age 18 he experimented with *paphs* and *phrags*. Jason is fascinated with Japanese culture and studied the language for six years at the University of Minnesota. He moved to Japan, married and worked as an English teacher. He has always been interested in Japanese orchids. We welcome Jason and his expertise on the native orchids of Japan to our October meeting.

I believe that promoting our orchid society at the National Heirloom Expo was a great success. Although a national event, we talked to hundreds of people from Sonoma County, as well as people from all over the country and out of the country. All of these people came to the Expo because of their love of nurturing plants and/or animals. Even though someone grew an heirloom variety of fruit, a love of growing extended to bedding flowers, or orchids or pelargoniums or succulents – all of which were represented at the Expo. Our small booth exhibited several genera and a number of fragrant species. Many of those visiting the orchid exhibit had been to our Show & Sale. Many asked if we were selling or where they could buy orchids. And many said they would come visit at our meetings and were interested in joining our Society, possibly now or at the Show. I think the question asked most frequently was "how can I make my orchid rebloom". This question was a perfect lead-in to our informative meetings and knowledgeable members. I want to thank those who volunteered to help and those who graciously loaned their plants for exhibit.

The Annual Barbeque & Auction was also successful. Although only a small number of people were able to attend, the Society made more money than last year, when we had many more people. This was due, in large part, to the members who donated plants to the silent auction, as well as those of you who solicited donations for the live auction. I want to thank all of you who did donate. It is through your generosity that this fundraiser made the money it did for the benefit of all its members. I want to particularly thank Becky and Dave Jackson for hosting this event in their beautiful and spacious backyard. Thank you also to Earl and Kathy Rathbun and their efficient staff for handling all the auction paperwork. And a big round of applause to Alan Koch, auctioneer extraordinaire, who brought a wonderful array of blooming and unusual plants to pique our bidding interest.

Our next event is our holiday party, which will again be held at Legends Restaurant. We will have some beautiful blooming plants to raffle. Please sign-up and give your check to Charlene Shaw.

Please join us at the meetings and at all upcoming events. Also, we encourage you to attend Board meetings. We'd love to hear your ideas, concerns and even complaints.

Kathie Hile

Win an Orchid

How can I win an orchid? Let me count the ways!

1. Bring a plant for Show and Tell and your name will be entered into a drawing held quarterly. This person gets 1st pick from the raffle table.
2. Bring a refreshment, or help with set up or take down and receive a raffle ticket for the first drawing of the Opportunity Table.
3. Wear your name tag and be entered into a drawing to win three raffle tickets.
4. Do a skill session and win \$5.00 worth of raffle tickets.

Show and Tell



Every time you bring a plant to Show and Tell, you will receive a chance to win the "Three Month Plant". When you bring in your plant (or plants) to share, fill out the card with your name and drop it in the box. A drawing will be held every three months.

Board Highlights

Sept. 21, 2011

The Heirloom Expo in Santa Rosa was a success with 20-30 people interested in coming to a meeting. To see pictures, click here:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/102195186594908813754/SCOSBoothAtHeirloomExpo?authkey=Gv1sRgCO6J8o3DnJWEsAE&feat=email#>

Click here for photos of the BBQ and Auction:

https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=apossinger&target=ALBUM&id=5653107876867704865&authkey=Gv1sRgCJi1-or-kN_fPw&feat=email

Treasurer, Ann Possinger reports \$18,860 in the bank. BBQ/Auction netted us \$1940.

Larry Mead reports 79 paid members and 39 non-paid. The non-paid will be dropped from the roster next month. The board elected to give Steve Tierra an honorary year's membership for his service in getting us non-profit status.

Spring Show plans are beginning. The first meeting will be in October with Lynne Murrell as Show Chair again.

Holiday Dinner will be at Legends restaurant again. Charlene Shaw is organizing it.

Thank You's

We have many to thank this month for volunteering, sharing and helping. If I miss anyone who helped during this last month and is not acknowledged, I apologize, but you have our gratitude.

There are so many people who made our Annual BBQ and Auction a success:

Thank you to **Becky** and **David Jackson** for being incredible hosts! They did a wonderful job! David did a fantastic job cooking our delicious BBQ beef and chicken! They borrowed tables, chairs and canopies from their church for us to use.

Thank you to **Kathy** and **Earl Rathbun** for being in charge of the silent auction! They do such a great job and make it look so easy! Their helpers, **Lynne Paulus** and **Patti Connick**, were great, too!

Thank you to everyone who procured donations for wine and those who donated plants. Especially, **Kris** and **Jim Foster**, who rounded up many wine donations. Also, **Judy Carney**, **Robert Benevides**, **Kathie Hile**, **Becky Jackson**, **Dale Martin**, **Barbara Klein**, **Ann Possinger**, **Charles Peters**, **Lynne Murrell**, **Cynthia Battershall**, **Patti Connick**, and **Susan Anderson** donated wine or plant items.

Thank you to the SCOS Board for helping set up and organize the event: **Ann Possinger**, **Gerry Smith**, **Kathie** and **Joe Hile**, **Becky** and **David Jackson**, **Larry** and **Jayne Mead**, **Charles Peters**, and **Susan Anderson**.

A huge thank you goes to our fabulous auctioneer, **Alan Koch** of Gold Country Orchids. Alan did a great job selecting wonderful orchids for us to bid on. He came all the way down from Lincoln to help us with our fundraiser!

Thank you to all the members who brought delicious food to share for our potluck. AND thank you to everyone who came to the auction! Thank you for your support!

Refreshments for October

Ho-Ma

Since we do not have a Refreshment Chair to coordinate refreshments, the Society is asking that the members with their last name beginning with **Ho-Ma** bring refreshments to the meeting. Snacks such as fresh fruit, crackers & cheese, cookies, cakes or any other snack are welcome. Anyone can bring refreshments.

Don't forget to get your raffle ticket for bringing something to share.



Membership Corner

Dear Membership,
If you haven't renewed your membership, this will be your last newsletter.

Reminder: If you changed your contact info, please let me know so I can update the Society's records.

Send updates to:
membership@sonomaorchids.com

Larry,
Membership Chair

AOS Awards for September

Awards can be seen at:

California Sierra Nevada Judging Center:
<http://www.csnjc.org>

Here are the awards for the California Sierra Nevada judging center

Sept 7 2011

Phalaenopsis celebensis 'Gollum', AM 81 species, Exhibited by Ramon de los Santos

Phalaenopsis violacea var. coerulea 'Monster', AM 81 species, Exhibited by Ramon de los Santos

Rlc. Matthew Koch 'Gold Country", HCC 78 (Rlc Sunday x C. Bright Angel), Exhibited by Nancy and Ted McClellan

Vanda Pat Delight 'Hildos', HCC 76 (V. Kasem's Delight x Fuchs Delight), Exhibited by Gisela Hymmen

Zelunguezia Orchidom Dancing Elf 'Kristine', HCC 75

(Rrm. Orchidom Dancer x Zel. onusta), Exhibited by Bob Conaty



SUNSHINE AND FLOWERS



2011/2012 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

BOARD of DIRECTORS

President	Kathleen Hile	585-1912	President@sonomaorchids.com
Vice President	Vacant		VicePresident@sonomaorchids.com
Secretary	Becky Jackson	584-1386	Secretary@sonomaorchids.com
Treasurer	Ann Possinger	538-4101	Treasurer@sonomaorchids.com
Membership	Larry Mead	539-5316	Membership@sonomaorchids.com
Newsletter Editor	Deb Chapman	486-7618	Newslettter@sonomaorchids.com
Ways & Means	Gerry Smith	795-0235	WaysMeans@sonomaorchids.com
Meetings Director	Vacant		Meetings@sonomaorchids.com
Past President	Susan Anderson	762-2917	PastPresident@sonomaorchids.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Meetings Setup	Bob Beckwoldt	415-479-2329	
Greeter	Charles Peters	324-9203	Greeter@sonomaorchids.com
Librarian	Patty Connick	538-4245	Librarian@sonomaorchids.com
Opportunity Table	Ann Conger	823-0334	Optable1@sonomaorchids.com
	Charlene Shaw	537-8708	Optable2@sonomaorchids.com
Plant Sales	Marilyn Barquero	763-8820	Plantsales1@sonomaorchids.com
	Mariann Hopkins	829-1043	Plantsales2@sonomaorchids.com
Spring Show	Lynne Murrell	415-457-0836	Show@sonomaorchids.com
Bus Trip	Judy Carney	778-1295	Bustrip1@sonomaorchids.com
	Patty Connick	538-4245	Bustrip2@sonomaorchids.com
Holiday Party	Ann Conger	823-0334	Holidayparty1@sonomaorchids.com
	Charlene Shaw	537-8708	Holidayparty2@sonomaorchids.com
AOS/Orchid Digest	Patty Connick	538-4245	AOSrep@sonomaorchids.com
Webmaster	Richard Lindberg	226-1409	Webmaster@sonomaorchids.com

October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Open Greenhouse</i>
9	10	11 <i>SCOS Meeting</i>	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 <i>Board meeting</i>	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 <i>SCOS Mtg</i>	9	10	11	12
13 <i>Open Greenhouse</i>	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Upcoming Events

- Oct 1,2—Cynthia Battershall selling orchid divisions by appointment, 707 -938-2205.
- October 11th, SCOS Meeting at the Vets Building.
- October 20, Board meeting at Ann Possinger's home
- November 8th, SCOS Meeting at the Vets Building. Speaker will be Adam Anderson talking about Orchids from Borneo.
- November 13, Open Greenhouse at Earl and Kathy Rathbun's, 11a-3p.
- December 13th, SCOS Holiday Party.

Marni Turkel is closing her pottery business and will sell pots and vases at a reduced cost to our members.

The Bus Trip will be in April if we get someone to organize it. The Repotting Party will be in May.

CLASSIFIEDS

You may have noticed that we now have a "Classifieds" Column. Members may advertise orchid related items for sale. Send your ad to newsletter@sonomaorchids.com

*****ORCHID SALE***September 26, 27, 30 and October 1 and 2. By appointment only 2-6pm. Established divisions, including pendant and high color cymbidiums and their companions, and intermediate growers— L. purpurata, brassavola, cattleya, brassia, etc. Most plants: \$10. Ten minutes south of the town of Sonoma. CYNTHIA BATTERSHALL. 707-938-2205. cbatt@yahoo.com .

***** Marni Turkel is liquidating her pottery inventory and closing her studio. We hope to have a date in October when Marni will host an open studio for the SCOS and the MOS, selling her firsts and seconds at discounted prices. When we have a date and time, we will notify everyone by email. If you do not have an email and want to be notified by phone of the open studio, please call Kathie at 707-585-1912 and leave your name and phone number (speaking clearly and slowly) for a call back with the date and time of the open studio.

ADVERTISING

We also plan to have an Advertising column and publish business cards. Here is where you can all help. Our newsletter will publish any business card in our monthly newsletter for \$10 per month, with a three-month minimum. Advertisers may send their business cards to newsletter@sonomaorchids.com. Checks may be given to any Board Member. Or mailed to Ann Possinger, SCOS, PO Box 11195, Santa Rosa, CA 95406

Marie Waskow Award

Each year members of our Society vote to honor a member who has given outstanding service to the Sonoma County Orchid Society. This is for an individual or couple who exemplify the ideals of generosity and service to the organization in spreading the joy of growing orchids as practiced by Marie Waskow, a founding member of our Society. The Award will be presented at the Holiday Party. Past recipients of the award are:

1988	Harold Levenson	2000	Jim Kennedy
1989	Yosh and Shiz Sugioka	2001	Jim Butts
1990	Austin and Judy Carney	2002	Bob and Juanita Breckwoldt
1991	Jim Hamilton	2003	Paul Matsushita
1992	Lowman Whittenburg	2004	Patty Connick
1993	Robert and Claudia Pike	2005	Susan Anderson
1994	Kevin Smith	2006	Garry Baker
1995	Earl Rathbun	2007	Linda Eggleston
1996	Marilyn Bucher	2008	Jim and Kris Foster
1997	Marilyn Dailey	2009	Ted Pruden
1998	Mitch and Gail McAlpin	2010	Jerry and Gerry Smith
1999	Sam and Juanita Spencer		

BALLOT

2011 Marie Waskow Award

My vote for the 2011 Marie Waskow Award is:

Remember that ALL members can vote for this honor, not just one vote per household.

You may turn in your ballot at the November meeting. If you are unable to attend the November meeting, please email your ballot to Susan Anderson at artwork@copyshopandprinting.com, or

mail it to her at 1883 Adobe Creek Dr. Petaluma, CA 94954 by November 15, 2011.

All ballots must be received by November 15th in order to be counted.

The winner will be announced and the award presented at the Holiday Party on December 13th.

Planning for the optimum health and blooms of your orchids through winter and into spring is as important as their day-to-day care. Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can boost their resistance to damage from pests, disease and winter temperatures in the coming months.

Seasonal nutritional needs differ among various orchid genera, and may diverge still further depending on local climatic conditions in disparate geographic regions. The following guidelines may require modification to accommodate individual growing conditions.

Cattleya. *Watering and fertilizing frequency should be reduced, as the plants dry out more slowly in the cooler temperatures and shorter days. Bud sheath may yellow at this time of year as temperature fluctuations can cause water to condense inside the sheath. Should you notice condensation in the sheath, it should be opened or removed to allow the developing buds adequate air circulation and prevent bud blast caused by rots. Simply slit open the sheath and carefully peel it down toward the pseudobulb, exercising caution so as not to damage the delicate bud primordia within.*

Dendrobium. *Autumn and winter needs vary according to the species or hybrid parentage in this diverse genus. Den. phalaenopsis and Den. canaliculatum hybrids will benefit from a fertilizer with a low nitrogen formula for optimal flowering. The leaves of Den. nobile types and their hybrids begin to yellow and drop at this time of year in preparation for their winter dormancy. Plants should be given plenty of light and good air circulation and kept dry from November through February. Mist occasionally if their canes become overly shriveled.*

Paphiopedilum. *Generally, these do not require a great deal of fertilizer. This is especially important with the cooler-growing bulldog types to reduce nitrogen levels at this time of year for best flowering. (Bulldog paphs have plain green leaves as opposed to the mottled-leaf types.) Watch for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath or for late-season warm spells, as either can rot the sheath and destroy the developing inflorescence. While paphs should not be allowed to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced in the cooler days. Overwatering can cause root rot or Erwinia problems.*

Phalaenopsis. *Growth slows and inflorescences begin to appear. Reduce watering and fertilizing frequency and apply a bloom-boosting fertilizer. Many growers also recommend applications of Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) to Phals at this time of year to prevent yellowing and loss of lower leaves and to enhance blooming. Once buds are evident on the inflorescences, keep temperatures and humidity consistent to prevent bud drop. Phals grown in the greenhouse are especially prone to bud blast in February and early March, when the heat is still coming on at night and the greenhouse temperatures rise during the day.*

Vandaceous Genera. *Aside from Neofinetia falcata, vandaceous orchids generally do not tolerate autumn and winter's cooler temperatures (below 60F) well and need to be carefully protected from chills. Vandaceous orchids still need as much light as possible as the days become shorter and light levels fall. Reduce the frequency of fertilizing and watering to accommodate the slower growth period they are entering. Susan Rosenbrg at R.F. Orchids recommends starting the first week of October, feeding a bloom-booster fertilizer exclusively, once a week for 4 – 6 weeks, at 1tsp./gal. of water, with normal watering between. In November, begin fertilizing every other week, using a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer at 1tsp./gal., substituting bloom booster every fourth feeding.*

Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can mean happier, healthier and more productive plants year round.



*Sonoma County
Orchid Society*

SCOS Orchid News
P. O. Box 11195
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

We're on the Web!

<http://www.sonomaorchids.com>

SONOMA COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

The Sonoma County Orchid Society meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month. **Plant sales begin at 6:45 p.m. and ends when the speaker begins his/her presentation.** The Society provides an opportunity for any member to sell plants or material (with a 25% commission to the Society). A reminder to all members that any plant material offered for sale at the Society meeting, must be run through the Society. Pre-arranged pick-up of plants or materials is OK and does not have to go through the Society. Plant owners assume all risk and responsibility for their property. Your members binder has additional information.

The Skill Session, when scheduled, is held at **6:45** at the front of the meeting room. The subject will be announced in the newsletter and a sign will be posted at the meeting. Announcements followed by Show and Tell begin at 7:00 p.m. The speaker will begin after Show and Tell (approximately 8:00 p.m.). Refreshments and opportunity plant drawings occur after the speaker's lecture.