

# Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society

Established 1951

Helping You to Become a Better Grower

## February 2012 Newsletter

### February Meeting- Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>

The February presentation will feature a potting demonstration by long-time member and expert grower Conrad Kumata. Each member may bring one plant to repot after Conrad's demo. SCVOS will provide bark mix free of charge. 1-gallon pots will be available at 50 cents each or bring your own pot in which to repot your plant. Conrad will be right there to provide assistance while you repot.

The February plant table will feature Cymbidiums by Manuel Sagisi, many blooming or in spike. If you ever have been to Manuel's greenhouse in Salinas, you know what a special treat this will be. Manny's Cyms are extremely popular at sales and auctions, and are always



Snapped- up by buyers, for high prices.

This month the raffle will be a bit different from the usual. We will have 20 tickets for \$10.00 each; these numbers will be called first and will be guaranteed first pick of all the raffle plants. The remaining 20 plants will be raffled off as usual (\$1.00 for one ticket, 6 for \$5.00 and 12 for \$10.00 etc.)"



Manuel Sagisi

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### **Important Notice:**

Your 2012 Dues are due at the February Meeting. SCVOS accepts cash, checks and major credit cards. Dues are \$20.00 if you get the Newsletter emailed and \$30.00 if you get it mailed.

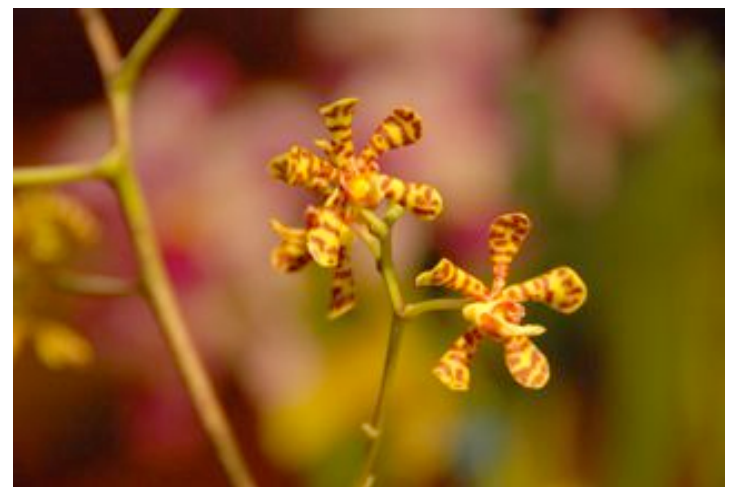
### **January Meeting**

The January meeting featured a presentation by Chen-Hao Hsu entitled "In Search of Orchids in Old and New Habitats". Chen-Hao has traveled extensively in South and Central America; especially Mexico, Peru and Ecuador. He showed many photos of many orchids blooming in Situ. The difficulty in viewing these orchids is hard to imagine. Many are at high elevations in very mountainous regions with primitive or no roads. This is not the safest region of the world and with few amenities. We are lucky to have someone like Chen-Hao go there for us. Also, many of these sites are being ruined by the local people trying to raise food and livestock. As orchid growers, we need to support conservation societies to preserve orchids in the wild. As a member of the Santa Clara Orchid Society, part of your dues go to the Orchid Conservation Alliance. It is a really worthwhile organization

that buys land to preserve it for orchids in the wild.



Chen-Hao Hsu with Ed Nazzal



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## Presidents Corner

### Upcoming Events for 2012:

January 27-29

Peninsula Orchid Society Show  
1400 Roosevelt Ave. Redwood  
City CA

February 23-26

Pacific Orchid Exhibition\*\*  
Fort Mason  
San Francisco, CA

March 15-17

Santa Barbara International  
Orchid Show  
Earl Warren Fairgrounds  
Santa Barbara, CA

March 17

37<sup>th</sup> Annual Cymbidium  
Conference  
Santa Barbara, CA

March 30,31 and April 1

SCVOS Orchid Show and Sale  
Westgate Shopping Center  
San Jose, CA.

**\*\* SCVOS will have a display at this show which is the largest in the US. Matt Bond is heading up our effort. Please come to the February meeting for more particulars; especially if you can help.**

## Notice:

If you are not getting your newsletter via email, please be sure to give your current correct address to Ed Nazzal, [paphman@gmail.com](mailto:paphman@gmail.com)

For the February Meeting, those with last names which begin with A to D, please bring food.

Remember, for much more information about orchids, links, our future schedule, care sheets, contact information, previous newsletters, and lots of pictures of plants and people, visit the website:

[santaclaravalleyorchidsociety.org/links.htm](http://santaclaravalleyorchidsociety.org/links.htm)

The SCVOS:  
Helping You to Become a Better Grower

## SCVOS Online

So much online – check it out!! We have a Facebook page. Have a look at it on [Facebook!](#) Also see [Matt Bond's Flickr page](#), and [Eric Hunt's SCVOS Show page](#), and the [Internet Orchid Species Encyclopedia](#), which the SCVOS helps fund. Member Susan Wiedman also has a new link at <http://www.upclosewithmothernature.com/>



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## Board Meeting

The February 2012 meeting will occur on the 15th of February at 7:30 PM at Ed Nazzals House. All members are welcome. Participating on the board is a very rewarding and infinitely educational experience – highly recommended! Please come out and support your society!



**Your 2011 Board**

**The Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society is a non-profit organization that meets the first Wednesday of each month at the American Legion Hall, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, in the Willow Glen neighborhood of San Jose, California. The meeting starts at 7:30 PM.**

### *Officers for 2012*

Kristina Bell, President (408) 229-2747  
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Sandi Fox, Secretary (408) 683-0145  
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Marvin Bell, Treasurer (408) 229-2747  
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### *Directors for 2012*

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[pjb@presol.com](mailto:pjb@presol.com)

### *2012 Auction Chair*

Ed Nazzal (408) 268-3573  
[paphman@gmail.com](mailto:paphman@gmail.com)

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### *Library*

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### *Plant Opportunity Tickets*

Dave and Ofelia Woodfill (408) 248-5983  
[ofiew@comcast.com](mailto:ofiew@comcast.com)

### *Kitchen Crew*

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[ckk1boater@aol.com](mailto:ckk1boater@aol.com)  
Liz Gehrig (408) 363-6901  
[eagehrig@aol.com](mailto:eagehrig@aol.com)

### *2012 Greenhouse Tour*

Ed Nazzal (408) 268-3573  
[paphman@gmail.com](mailto:paphman@gmail.com)

### *2012 Show and Sale*

Eanghak Quach, Co-Chair, Judging (408) 629-3794  
[epigarden@yahoo.com](mailto:epigarden@yahoo.com)  
Peter Brown, Co-Chair, Sales (510) 755-3654  
[pjb@presol.com](mailto:pjb@presol.com)

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**Photos from the January  
2012 Meeting**



**Plant Table**



**Marv Bell**



**Show & Tell**



**Manuel Sagisi**



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## Alden Lane Orchid Sale & Show 1/7/12



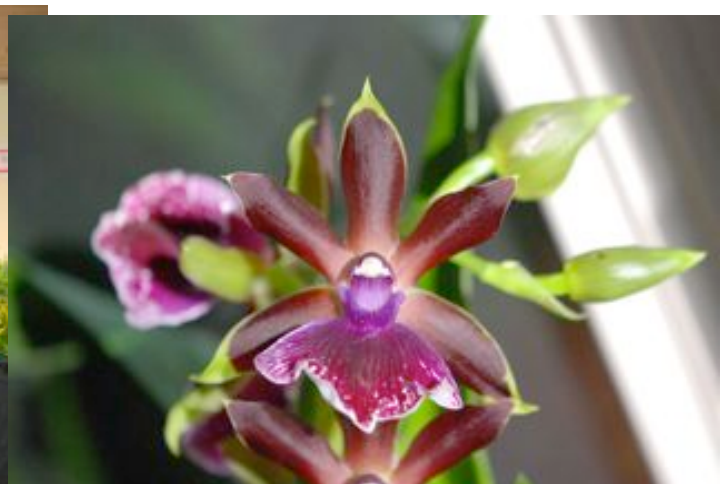
**“The Temple of Bloom”**



**Show Sales**



**Angelic Nguyen & Dave Robinson**



**Zygocaste from Vintage Orchids**



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## OLIVERS' CORNER

### Orchid Facts

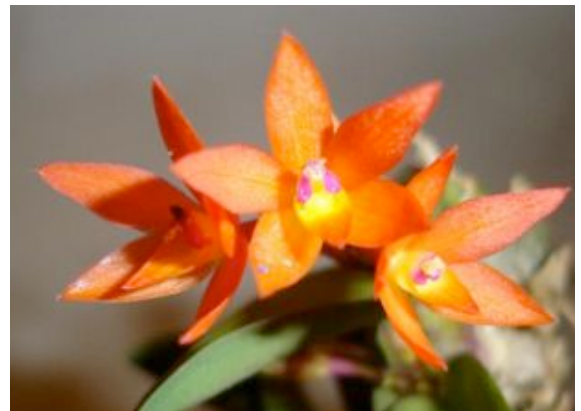
*Sophronitis* (Soph) is a genus in the *Cattleya* alliance. They are small, either epiphytic or lithophytic (even terrestrial!), sympodial growing orchids used extensively in breeding to reduce plant size and also to produce bright red color among *Cattleya* hybrids. They are found in wet forests in the high elevations of Eastern Brazil, Paraguay and Northeast Argentina.

*Sophronitis cernua* (the type species) was first described by John Lindley in 1828. The genus name was derived from the Greek *sophron*, meaning, chaste, modest and, in this case, small. The first two meanings of this Greek word do not translate to the characteristics of the flowers in this genus. The flowers are certainly neither chaste nor modest when it comes to color. These plants flower any time of the year.

Most members of this genus are cool growing in nature, thus intermediate conditions when growing them. They need bright, indirect light and high humidity. Most internet sources recommend watering freely during summer and sparingly during winter, simulating conditions where they grow naturally. However, *Soph. brevipedunculata* grow in very dry conditions in nature. Rains may not

come for months on end. And this species can live entirely on night dew.

The *Sophronitis* genus has been classified into these genera: *Brasilaelia*, *Chironiella*, *Dungsia*, *Hadrolaelia*, *Hoffmannseggella*, *Lophoglottis*, *Microlaelia*, and *Sophronia*. At the 2008 World Orchid Congress in Miami, there was already talk of reclassifying the *Sophronitis* genus. Now, they are all classified as *Cattleya*. And since Brazilian *Laelia* species have also been reclassified as *Sophronitis* (which brought the number of members from 10 to 66), some *Laeliocattleya* (Lc.), *Soprocattleya* (Sc.) and *Soprolaeliocattleya* (Slc.) hybrids are now simply *Cattleya* hybrids.



**Sophronitis cernua –photo from orchidspecies.com**



## **Pacifica Orchid Extravaganza**

**Thursday February 23, 2012 - Saturday February 25, 2012 from 9:00am - 5:00pm**

[White Oak Orchids](#)

1204 Linda Mar Blvd, Ste. A

Pacifica, California 94044-4245 [Get Directions](#)

Visit one of California's Largest Orchid Nurseries at this Orchid Free For All! Hundreds of blooming orchids on display. Learn from the Experts! Culture and care advice all weekend. Extraordinary orchids available for purchase - easy beautiful hybrids. Weird, Wonderful, Unique Species.

Just 1.5 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Visit the Jungle and the Ocean in the same day!

Website: <http://www.whiteoakorchids.com>