



NEWSLETTER

Golden Gate Cymbidium Society
A branch of the Cymbidium Society of America, Inc.

MAY 2017

The General Meeting

May 24th, Wednesday @ 7:30p.m.

Lakeside Park Garden Center
666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, CA

Meeting Topic: "Plant Hormones and Orchids" presented by Ernesto Sandoval, Director of the U.C. Davis Botanical Conservatory; Collections Manager, of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.
(This program was rescheduled from earlier this year)



Have you ever wondered why your plant has a sudden burst of growth after transplanting? Or how the plant "knows" to grow new parts when pruned or how a cutting knows to make roots? Find answers to these questions and others about why your plants grow the way they do during this Informative but not so technical presentation by Ernesto Sandoval, Director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.

Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions to why plants look the way that they do for a long time. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and experiences from K-12 to professionals and Master Gardeners. He regularly lectures to Garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to Succulent Clubs throughout the State and elsewhere since that group of plants is his particular passion within his general passion for plants. He describes himself as a "Jose of all plants master of none". Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, and gardeners in particular, to understand

why plants do what they do. Orchids, because of the way they grow, are of particular fascination with him.

When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly "because that's the way you do it." Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Curator/Manager over the last 24 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.

He's long left the "mow blow and go" monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of polyculture and biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them orchids. He loves the technical language but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do.

President's Message

Have you noticed that our Cymbidiums are not sure what to do with all this crazy weather? I have plants that are still getting spikes and some of the spikes refuse to flower. I have spikes with tight buds that don't get any bigger for several weeks (4 or 5 weeks at a time) or they just drop off. One day it's hot (90%) and the next day it's cold (54%) and then sometimes it rains. One thing I have noticed with this crazy weather is that the Cymbidiums are getting several new growths, 4 or 5 or more per plant.

On other notes we have our election of officers and board members. Please

contact Sue Davis if you would like to run for President, Vice President, or as a board member. At this meeting we will designate nominations of candidates for officers and directors. At the June meeting we will vote for the election of officers and directors.

Also this month we will vote on the Leland Williams Perpetual trophy; which is given for distinguished service to the club by one of its members. Don't forget in June we will have our summer potluck and auction, divide plants now and donate them for the June Auction.

– Cheryl

FYI – Upcoming GGCS Programs

Mark your calendar for future speakers and topics:

June 28 – Potluck Dinner, Election of Officers and Summer AUCTION

June 16 thru July 9 – GGCS **Orchid Booth** at the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton

July & August – No club meetings scheduled, have a Happy Summer. See you in September!



GGCS Orchid Booth at the Fair in Pleasanton

The theme this year is "Best. Summer. Ever."

The Fair is Open from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. We will be in the Q building.
Closed Mondays and Tuesdays (except July 3rd, and 4th)

Come join us and spend an afternoon in our booth talking with people interested in orchids. Signups for shifts in the booth. Contact Nikki Justino if you can work 3 or 4 hours for a day ... or maybe two. nikkijustino@gmail.com

BEST. SUMMER. EVER... LEARNING ABOUT ORCHIDS



Calendar of Orchid Events

If you have online access please see the event calendar on our website:
<http://goldengatecymbidiumsociety.com/calendar/>

June 28, 2017 Golden Gate Cymbidium Society Orchid Auction, Election of Officers for 2017-2018, Potluck Dinner, & Last Meeting of the Season, Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Lakeside Park Garden Center, **666 Bellevue Avenue**, Oakland. Members bring some of their best cymbidiums as donations for this incredible auction. If you are coming to the dinner as well as the auction, remember to also bring something to share for the potluck dinner. See photos for some fantastic plants on their website.

Golden Gate Cymbidium Society – Officers and Directors – 2016/2017

President – Cheryl P.

Vice President – Sue D.

Secretary – Ed M.

Web Mistress – Audrey Y-T.

Newsletter Editor – Nikki J. (Filling in temporarily)

CSA Representative – Florence I. (Cymbidium Society of America)

Treasurer – Helga M.

Directors – Walter B., Terry B., Jim D.,
Trudy H., Jane T., and Audrey Y-T.

The following is a note is a request from the public about repotting assistance. Please let me know if you can help since she lives in Oakland. I have her email contact information if you can help.

"I live in Oakland.
I have a dozen plants. I have a friend who has three more.
The containers range in size. A couple of plants are in one gallon pots, several are in five gallon pots, and some are in pots that are about 14 inches in diameter. I think most of the plants can be cleaned up and returned to their pots. The smallest pots may need to be up sized. If someone wanted some of the divisions as part of their "fee", that could probably be arranged.
I have not tested for any viruses. The plants are all growing outside (and have been ever

since I brought them home at various times) and seem quite healthy. Most are blooming right now. They are just out-growing their pots so if take off some dead pseudobulbs, they would fit in their pots again. I used to transplant them in batches so there would always be something blooming, but I haven't transplanted any of them for quite some time. It still may make sense to transplant some now and some next year, but I would welcome input on that.

Thanks again.
Sandy"

Note from the Editor,

We need a member to take on the job of Newsletter editor for the club. This is a valuable job that serves to keep the club connected and informed.

Next month will be my last edition. I have enjoyed working on this project for many years but the time is right for someone else to keep us informed.

Thanks for your help and support. – Nikki



Golden Gate Cymbidium Society
26973 Patrick Ave., Hayward, CA 94544

Next **Board Meeting**

May 24, 2017

@ 6:30 p.m.

Next **General Meeting**

May 24, 2017

@ 7:30 p.m.

Lakeside Garden Center,
Oakland, CA