



NEWSLETTER

Golden Gate Cymbidium Society

March 2018

A branch of the Cymbidium Society of America, Inc.

The General Meeting

March 28, 2018 Wednesday @ 7:30p.m.

Lakeside Park Garden Center

666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, CA

Instead of our Having a March Lecture, this month we usually meet Socially, and celebrate all our hard work with the success of Our Booth Display at the Pacific Orchid Exhibition AND our OWN GGCS Orchid Show & Sale a few weeks ago! AND to Show Appreciation for all of Our Volunteer Members (for whom without, we could never have pulled either of these 2 Huge Events off!), and those who brought all their beautifully groomed orchid plants and circus decor - We are holding this Special Event for you! Even if you were not able to volunteer a few weekends ago, or none of your orchids were in blom, come this month anyway - it is always fun, we will have a slideshow and photos of what you missed!

And of course, remember to bring your blooming plants for show AND sale, and snackies.

Plant Raffle Table

... as the Ice cream is FREE, we will hold off our plant raffling until our April Speaker.

Board Meeting

... will be held at the meeting site at 6:30 pm, just before the Meeting. Early arriving members are invited to come, pull up a chair and listen in !!

Snackies : Bring Suitable Ice Cream sprinkles, Cut up Fruit or others...

... enough to share with 5-10 of our fellow members. We'll have beverages there as well! Hey, Chocolate Brownies , AND CAKE, are not to be sneezed at....

Next Meeting

... Wednesday, April 25 will be our Next Lecture, Plants Show and Tell, Snackies & Social Meeting! Welcome to Dr. Ken Jacobsen speaking at that time. He's busy at work, and still working on our lecture, but we'll get it soon!

President's Message

March Presidents Message,
Hello Everyone!

March is here! And time to think about running for an office! We need board members! We will be putting a nominating committee together, so stay tuned....

We had a great time at the POE this year. Jim, Ed & I erected a cozy display featuring high quality Cymbidiums, orchids and some marvelous Alice in Wonderland art. We also received a supply check from the San Francisco

Orchid Society. Which made this display so worth it and fun!

We sure know how to **put on a Show** Everyone should pat themselves on the back and start signing up for next year's Show and Sale (just kidding..)

There's no way to thank everyone who made this show possible. I wish to thank a few that year after year go above and beyond!

Thank you Ed for being there every day first thing, making sure signs were out and we were up and running! Audrey for having those great signs made for the club! It really helped bring more people in! Bill and John for working on dividing and potting cymbidiums both days! That is so valuable for drawing in interest! Nancy, you always keep us fed with great wholesome food and make sure trophies are ordered and plaques engraved! Jim you're always there to do the heavy stuff! Paul who's always there to help break down on Sunday! Trudy you faithfully monitor the plant hotel! Nikki and Kathy for always helping to set up and decorate! Helga and Jane for keeping track of sales, the raffle, security and new members! All who helped out for ribbon judging!

Believe me I really, really appreciate your time away from your lives to come and help out. Golden Gate still has really good members!

Now, **Pay Attention:** We are having our ice cream social so please pitch in and bring something to share that goes really really well with vanilla ice cream. We will supply a few frills and a topping or 2, but if there's something you like, bring it. Or we don't eat delicious sundaes, short cakes, banana splits - Oh, the Horror! Remember you get

an extra special raffle ticket that gets pulled early with the remaining refreshment tickets going into the big drawing for another chance to win. We probably won't have a raffle table this meeting, so you will get that ticket for next month.

Now, **Really Pay Attention:** If you have not already done so, it is time to pay your **DUES!** This is how we fund the Society. Your dues pay for our speakers and make up the difference between ticket sales and the actual costs of our raffle tables. Please mail your check or bring them to our March Meeting..

Sue...



Shunran -The truly dwarf *Cymbidium* species, *C. goeringii*, is a native of Japan, Korea, and China, and exhibits a wide range of flower forms and colors. While the focus is mostly on their flowers, leaf habit and variegation is also important in some varieties. These specially selected forms are known as *shunran*, which means "spring orchid". There are hundreds of forms today, some well known, others obscure. In the wild *Cymbidium goeringii* is most commonly seen as a green flowered plant with a white lip. On rare occasions flowers with brownish-orange flushing in the sepals and petals, or dirty yellow color can be found. Only very rarely is a pure red, orange, or yellow flowered plant discovered. All of these special forms are coveted by *shunran* growers, and high quality flowering clones command equally high prices. as time goes on fewer and fewer colorful forms remain in nature. That has led to breeding new forms. Still, you hear stories of a yellow or orange flowered plant being found and sold for hundreds of dollars to the highest bidder. The truth of such

stories remains in question – such is the nature of collecting rare orchids that command high prices.

While blooming the more common green flowered forms is straightforward, the colored varieties of shunran tend to be a bit more tricky. One reason is that once the flower buds are set in the fall, it is necessary to cover them with a hood to keep out light over winter. This is done so that the resting flower bud doesn't develop chlorophyll, thus muddying the red, orange, and yellow color of the flower later on. Buds that remain uncovered will have much more green in them, thus clouding their beauty. The process is very much like making white asparagus by covering it with hay. This hood can be made of any material that works – a breathable opaque fabric would be ideal, but many folks simply make them from tin foil.

Another trick to getting them to bud well in the fall is to dry them out a bit in late summer – not bone dry of course. Also around mid summer you should stop fertilizing since continued feeding will only produce more leaves and few if any flower buds. The flower buds need to be protected during cold weather as well – from dry winds and frost in particular. The ideal winter temperature is around 5-8 C 41-47 F. Plants should be protected from the elements – wind, rain, snow, and frost. Once the buds begin to elongate in late winter or early spring, the hood should be removed.

Lovely, yet expensive and illusive to most western growers, the colored forms of *Cymbidium goeringii* remain a tantalizing prospect for most. As with many highly collectable plants in Japan, access to them outside their native lands is so far very limited.. Few examples of colors..

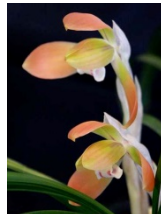


Cymbidium goeringii 'Benitemari'



Cymbidium

goeringii 'Fukunohikari'



Cymbidium goeringii

'Benitaiko'



Cymbidium goeringii 'Kohakuden'

FYI – Upcoming GGCS Program



Calendar of Orchid Events

If you have online access please see the event calendar on our website:

<http://goldengatecymbidiumociety.com/calendar/>

March 28, 2018 Golden Gate Cymbidium Society Meeting - this is our Celebratory Ice Cream Social ! Wednesday, 7:30 PM. Lakeside Garden

Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA. Meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the Month. We are celebrating a fantastically run Orchid Show and Sale all run and powered by Volunteers. So to Show our appreciation, we are throw you an Ice Cream Party!! Come and bring the kids!! Also, your latest bloomed cymbidium or other orchids! And for refreshments - What do you put on YOUR ice cream? Sprinkles? Chopped nuts? Fruit? Well, bring those !! (i'm bringing a hot air popper and dry popcorn!) For more info, click on the Next Meeting Page. Or see www.GoldenGateCymbidiumSociety.com, and like us on Facebook

!. #flowers #orchids #cymbidiums #sfbayarea #oakland #mastergardeners #gardening #growgrowgrow #orchidlecture

March 31 - April 1, 2018 Sonoma County Orchid Society Show & Sale Saturday 10AM - 5PM, Sunday 10AM - 4PM, Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa. Contact them to verify location, admission, etc. www.sonomaorchids.com.

Golden Gate Cymbidium Society – Officers and Directors – 2017/2018

President – Sue D

Vice President - Audrey Y-T

Secretary - Ed M

Treasurer & Membership - Helga M

Past President - Cheryl P

Directors: Terry B, Jim D, Trudy H, Jane T, Walter B,

Audrey Y-T Web Mistress - Audrey Y-T

Newsletter Editor - Walter, Margaret

CSA Rep - Florence I, [Cymbidium Society of America]

**Editors Remarks: Ours February meeting was very informative and well attended. Weegie Caughlan our speaker and founder of Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers Society spoke to “Current standard Cymbidium Breeding in US and in Australia” a comparison of the quality of standard cymbidium breeding in both Countries. All Thanks to Ms. Caughlan. Weggie Plant table was extraordinary if you were not there, you should have been there, I’ll see you on the 28th
Walter**



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Next **Board Meeting**

April 25, 2018

@ 6:30 p.m.

Next **General Meeting**

April 25, 2018

@ 7:30 p.m.

Lakeside Garden Center,
Oakland, CA