



POS News

The Palomar Orchid Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the understanding and cultivation of both hybrid and species orchids. We welcome members of all levels to join us for orchid fun and learning! Our mission is to promote interest in the appreciation of orchids and to provide an opportunity for their display and the exchange and dissemination of information relating to their culture.

www.palomarorchid.org

A Monthly Publication

April 2013

President Message

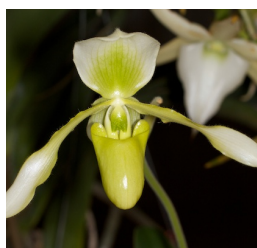
Alex Nadzan discusses the SDCOS Spring show and introduces our new treasurer, Vidya Sirsi.

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April To Do List

The third installment of our monthly feature, a To Do list tailored for growing orchids in Southern California

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Gems from the Last Meeting

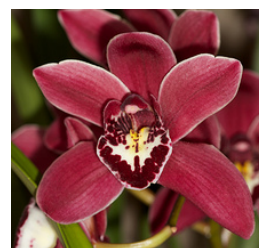
A panel of POS Expert Orchid Growers led four culture class sessions, answering many questions from the audience.

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Calendar of Events

Mark your calendar for the POS Annual Orchid Auction to be held on Saturday, August 3, 2013 at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion.

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April Meeting • Wednesday, April 3, 2013 • 6:30 pm



Harry Phillips

Perceptions and Realities of Growing Orchids

We are excited to welcome back Harry Phillips, of Andy's Orchids fame, to speak to us on 'Perceptions and Realities of Growing Orchids'. This is a very new presentation from Harry that will address the perceptions that hobbyists have about numerous aspects of orchid growing and

the actual realities of experiences that he and his brother, Andy, have had in their many years of growing orchids. This talk should be very informative and of value to novice and advanced orchidists alike. Harry also will provide for the opportunity table their ever popular plants from Andy's Orchids (<http://www.andysorchids.com>).

Harry Phillips is a native San Diegan, whose father taught him to appreciate plants at an early age. In January of 1963, Harry's younger brother, Andy (of Andy's Orchids fame), was born and six years later is when it all started. They were both exposed to exotic plants and flowers at an



Cymbidium eburnum

early age, but when Andy became interested and, later, obsessed with orchids, Harry somehow resisted becoming involved with them for as long as he could. He assisted Andy in his passion by building his first two greenhouses and Andy would reward him with a hybrid that was in bloom, tell him to bring it back when it goes out of bloom, and exchange it for one in bloom. Well, this would only last about a year until Harry decided that he wanted to keep one and get it to rebloom, the beginning of the end.

In 1986, Harry, with his soon to be wife, Leslie, moved with Andy and his orchid collection to Encinitas, California. Being



Coelogyne mooreana

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It looks like Spring has finally come to the greater San Diego area as evidenced by trees leafing out, birds constructing nests, and our plants initiating new growth. This is an ideal time to repot orchids in order to give them a head start on the upcoming growing season. The "April To Do" list has some helpful information on repotting various genera. Also the flurry of Spring Orchid Shows and sales has generated renewed enthusiasm for all orchid and plant lovers to supplement their collections and to attend to their plant's increasing needs.

Our POS Display committee, headed by Helge Weissig did an excellent job in putting together an impressive display for the recent San Diego Orchid Society Show at the Scottish Rite Center. Unfortunately, our display did not receive an award this year as the competition was quite stiff with many other great displays receiving awards, including our sister society, The San Diego County Cymbidium Society. They had a very nice exhibit which won the "Best Exhibit Illustrating the Show's Theme". Several other POS members received awards for displays and Best of Section for individual plant submissions, including Jerry and Anita Spencer (Best Amateur Exhibit), Renate Schmidt (Best Colored Cattleya Alliance, Best Miniature Cattleya and Best 3 Cattleyas in a Container) and myself. Particularly satisfying to

me was the Best of Section obtained for my *Zygopetalum Fair Maiden*, a hybrid made by Loren Batchman to whom the show was dedicated. Congratulations to all winners and participants in making the San Diego show a great success.

Members and guests will not want to miss our exciting speaker this month, Harry Phillips of Andy's Orchids fame. Harry will share his pragmatic experiences gained over the years on growing orchids and dispel some of the perceptions that many novices and experienced orchid growers may have about maintaining and growing orchids. Harry also will provide plants for the opportunity table, which will likely include some very interesting species, most of which are grown on sticks.

Finally, I want to personally thank Vidya Sirsi who generously volunteered to serve as Treasurer for our society. She will assume responsibility from Gil Ho who has acted as interim Treasurer until we identified someone to assume the position. Gil will continue to handle the duties in early April until we get the paperwork in place to allow Vidya to write checks.

Happy Growing and Repotting!



Alex Nadzan
President, POS

April To Do List

General

- Review and continue to follow recommendations for March since continued cool temperatures throughout March, particularly on the coast, has delayed Spring flowering and onset of growth for some species and hybrids.
- Fine tune the shading of orchids as heat and light continue to increase.

Snacks & Refreshments

This month, all members with last names beginning with **A through M** share at break time!

We appreciate everyone's effort in supplying our meeting with goodies. It makes for a great meeting all around!

Thank you!

- If not done yet, spray benches and growing areas with Physan to decrease possibility of bacterial and fungal diseases.
- April brings on new growth for many orchids and the opportunity to repot and divide those orchids that initiate new root growth at this time. Try to repot when roots are small and just beginning to emerge in order to minimize damage to soft tissues and avoid transplant shock, giving plants a head start for the upcoming growing season.
- Repot when orchids have begun to overgrow their pots and/or when media has started to break down. Also consider repotting plants that have been in pots for 2 or more years and are existing, but not thriving. Repotting can revitalize and provide new vigor to such plants.
- It is desirable to thoroughly rinse and soak all media prior to potting. Dry media tends to wick moisture away from plants. Then keep plants relatively dry to encourage root growth. If you prefer to repot using dry bark mixes, water newly potted plants thoroughly (2-3x), then keep on dry side to stimulate root growth.
- To divide orchids, allow for 3-5 bulbs per division.
- Check plants for algae, as a crust of algae acts as a barrier to both water and



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Gems From The Last Meeting



Merle Robboy & Alex Nadzan



Jerry Spencer



Merle Robboy



Renate Schmidt



Alex Nadzan



B/c. Ports of Paradise - Anita Spencer



Den. specio kingianum x Den. gracilicaule - Janice Krause



Bulbophyllum spec.
Merle Robboy



Unknown Paphiopedilum hybrid - Iso Zehner



Lc. Cariat's Mini-Queen 'Angel Kiss'
Anita Spencer



Hawkinsara Sogo Doll 'Little Angel' AM-OSROC - Pearl Crosier

Photos by Helge Weissig - full album at www.palomarorchid.org

Membership News

The March meeting featured our first expert grower panel discussion that was attended by 40 members and 2 guests. Our membership is now at 72.

We recently changed our PO Box address. Please send any postal mail to Palomar Orchid Society, PO Box 130774, Carlsbad CA 92013.



General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly meets the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at the Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe, Carlsbad.

Go east off 5 on Carlsbad Village Drive 1/2 mile to Monroe, turn South on Monroe to Women's Club. OR go west off El Camino Real at Carlsbad Village Drive to Monroe and turn south to the Women's Club. Meetings start promptly at 6:30 pm.

Upcoming Events

April 2, 2013

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

April 3, 2013

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

April 6 & 7, 2013

Central Coast Orchid Show
www.fcoss.org

April 17, 2013

SDCCS General Meeting

April 19, 2013

San Diego Zoo Orchid Odyssey
events.sandiegozoo.org

May 1, 2013

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

May 7, 2013

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

May 15, 2013

SDCCS General Meeting

May 16, 2013

San Gabriel Valley Orchid
Hobbyists Annual Auction
www.sgvoh.org

May 17, 2013

San Diego Zoo Orchid Odyssey
events.sandiegozoo.org

May 18, 2013

Casa de las Orquideas Annual
Seedling Sale
www.orquideas.com

Other Orchid Societies' Meetings

San Diego County Orchid Society

Meets First Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in Room 101 in the Casa del Prado of Balboa Park in San Diego
Bob Clark (858) 270-8352
membership@sdorchids.com

San Diego Cymbidium Society

Regular meetings 3rd Wednesday of each month, September-June, 7pm, San Diego Botanic Garden, Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024
Bill Wong (760) 931-0502
billtwong@att.net

Casa de las Orquideas
presents:

13TH ANNUAL Super Seedling SALE!

9 am to 4 pm
May 18, 2013
in person only!

170 S. Nardo Ave.
Solana Beach, CA 92075
858.755.7572
www.orquideas.com
casa@orquideas.com

over 50% off select 3" & 6" plants!



THE PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY
PRESENTS

2013 Orchid Auction

Saturday, August 3, 2013
Preview at 11:00 am
Auction starts at 12 Noon

The Pavilion at Lake San Marcos
1105 La Bonita Drive
San Marcos, CA 92078

FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING
More info at www.palomarorchid.org

Harry Philips *cont.*

constantly exposed to all of Andy's orchids was beginning to have an effect on Harry. Shortly after, Andy left for four months to Costa Rica, and placed Harry in charge of the collection. When Andy returned he found that Harry had not killed too many plants and managed to become even more addicted. Andy, now feeling more confident about leaving his orchid collection under Harry's care, began to plan a cycling trip through South America, which ended up lasting two years. After that it was all over for Harry, he was completely addicted to orchids.



Dendrobium ejerii (capillipes)

Harry assisted Andy part time, with the beginnings of Andy's Orchids for 10 years, while holding a full time job to

pay the mortgage, going full time at the nursery about 12 years ago. He is usually the one who attends the shows, taking their well-known Wardian cases with them. Harry's passion in orchids are in the genera Sobralia and Elleanthus, but you ask him at any particular time of the year which is his favorite orchid, it will most likely be the one or ones in bloom at that time. He has traveled in Mexico, the Caribbean, and Ecuador viewing orchids in the wild. Harry believes that growing epiphytic orchids the way they grow in nature is best and the orchids seem to agree.

March Judging Report

There were 6 orchids presented for judging. One was awarded.



Comparettia macroplectron 'Windflower'
Exhibited by Betty Kelepez
Awarded AM/AOS 81 points

Text and photo by Phyllis S. Prestia Ed.D.

Judging Sessions

The Pacific South Judging Center conducts each month three judging sessions in the Los Angeles and San Diego area. Locally, the sessions are held in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado in room 104 on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6 pm.

Visitors, with or without plants, are welcome anytime. If a member of the POS wishes to have flowering plants judged at one of these sessions but is unable to take the plants to the judging facility, please contact one of the following AOS judges:

- Rohrl, Helmut (La Jolla)
(858) 452-0976
- Tuskes, Ann and Paul (Clairemont)
(858) 274-5829

April To Do List *cont.*

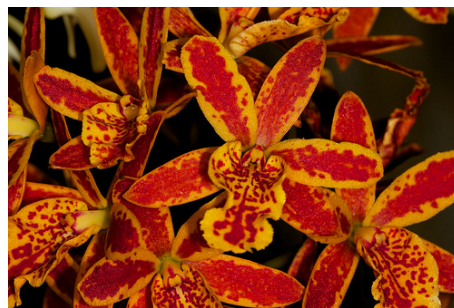
fertilizer, thus preventing roots from breathing properly.

- Cautiously use any pesticide, fungicide or chemical keeping in mind that most manufacturers typically do not specify the use of their products on orchids. Always use the lowest prescribed dose and avoid spraying flowers and buds. Recommended dosing for orchids can sometimes be found on the manufacturer's website or on various orchid forums (such as The Orchid Source).
- Orchids that are in bloom require less water, which allows the flowers to last longer.
- More details on specific genera can be found [on the AOS website](https://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=186) (<https://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=186>)

Indoors and Greenhouse

- Monitor for pests and diseases as temperatures begin to rise. Make sure fans and coolers are in good working order.

- Provide good air circulation for indoor plants to discourage diseases and pests such as mealy bugs. Treat early to avoid spreading to other plants.
- April is a good time to repot Paphiopedilums, which tend to benefit from a yearly repotting. Most do well in small bark and perlite containing a little charcoal. It is a good time to check the roots.



Outdoors

- Continue to monitor and control snails and slugs as weather warms. They can do considerable damage to new growths, buds and flowers in short order.
- Cattleyas, Oncidiums, Cymbidiums, and Aussie Dendrobiums should begin

initiating new root and bulb growth.

Increase watering frequency and fertilizer as new growth is observed and repot as needed.

- Australian Dendrobiums are in full bloom now. Dividing and repotting can be done after flowering is complete and new roots begin to form. Dendrobiums like to be root bound so only repot when plants outgrow their pots or are not doing well. Leave room for 2 or 3 years growth.
- In addition to Cymbidiums, Zyopetalums should be flowering and be ready to divide and/or repot once flowers wilt. Treat Zygos in the same manner as Cymbidiums and repot accordingly: repotting instructions at [Casa de las Orquideas](http://www.orquideas.com/growing/potting/cymbpot.html) (<http://www.orquideas.com/growing/potting/cymbpot.html>) and [The Mulch](http://www.themulch.com/orchids/cymbidium-orchids-care-in-southern-california) (<http://www.themulch.com/orchids/cymbidium-orchids-care-in-southern-california>).

The monthly To Do list is a collaboration of several POS members. Some tips adapted from Thomas Miranda (AOS). We appreciate any and all comments, suggestions, and feedback on our new feature. Please send them to newsletter@palomarorchid.org!

The Editor's Corner



As Alex mentioned in his President's message, we put together a display at the Annual Spring Show of the San Diego County Orchid Society. I want to use this space to thank all the volunteers who contributed hours of planning, ideas, crafts, decorations, helping hands in set-up and break-down, and last not least the wonderful plants without which the display would obviously not have been possible.

Specifically, I want to thank Cher Whelan and Marryanne Kind for their creativity and hard work on the incorporation of the theme as well as their critical input during set-up as well as their work on the burlap skirts for all pots (and I mean critical in a positive way, Cher!). Thanks also to Vidya Sirsi, Sandi Sandquist, and Janice Krause for their help with the set-up and the name tags. James Mickelson constructed the benches we used and Gil Ho's mother as well as Alex Nadzan transported them to the show. Renate Schmidt came in the nick of time to lend her expertise and help with last minute fixes to the plant placement. Many thanks for the loans of their beautiful plants go to Alex Nadzan, Gil Ho, Janice Krause, Renate Schmidt, Elaine Luevanos, Sandi Sandquist, and Cher Whelan. Check out a gallery of the display and all of the awarded plants at www.palomarorchid.org/2013POSDisplay

As always, any and all contributions to the newsletter or website are very welcome. Please email them to newsletter@palomarorchid.org.

Happy Growing!

POS Officers

Alex Nadzan — President

John Kidwell — 1st Vice President/Programs

Terri Lofthouse — 2nd Vice President/Raffle

Cathy Belt — 3rd Vice President/Membership

Sandi Sandquist — Secretary

Vidya Sirsi — Treasurer

Merle Robboy, Renate Schmidt,

Warren Stehle — 2nd Year Trustees

Carl Lofthouse, Elf Mittonn, Vidya Sirsi — 1st Year Trustees

Helge Weissig — Newsletter & Website Editor

Contact Us

Palomar Orchid Society

PO Box 130774

Carlsbad CA 92013

POS News

newsletter@palomarorchid.org

Website

www.palomarorchid.org

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