PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY



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

April 2017

#### **A Monthly Publication**



Gems from the March Meeting

The culture class panel was well received and many members brought in beautiful, flowering orchids. Page 3

#### 2017 Orchid Sale & Auction

Our Annual Auction is scheduled for May 6, 2017 and we are looking for plant donations and volunteers. Page 4

#### SDCOS Show Awards The San Diego Orchid Societies Spring Show & Sale was a big success and many of our POS members received multiple

awards and ribbons.

Page 4

#### POS SDCOS Show Exhibit

The POS exhibit at the SDCOS Show and Sale won two top awards for best display. Many thanks to everyone who contributed & helped! Page 5

April To-Do List POS maintains <u>a set of</u> to-do lists, one for every month, for our Southern California conditions. Spring comes with many chores! Page 7

### Monthly Meeting • Wednesday, April 5, 2017 • 6:30 pm



# *George Hatfield* Pendulous Cymbidiums

We are very fortunate and pleased to welcome George Hatfield as our speaker this month. George will be speaking on *'Pendulous Cymbidiums'*, a topic that he is eminently qualified to address as he has produced some of the best pendulous cymbidiums in the country. George is currently the President of the American Orchid Society and the owner of Hatfield Orchids, a Ventura County, CA based company, initiated in 2005 and focused on the development of high quality and award winning cymbidiums. Some of George's beautiful cymbidiums can be viewed on <u>his facebook page</u>. George also will be providing the plant table this month.

George's visit is being co-sponsored by POS and SDCOS. Accordingly, he will be speaking on Tuesday, April 4 to SDCOS on 'Cymbidium Species' in Balboa Park and all are welcome to attend. Please see <u>the SDCOS website</u> for details on time and location.



George Hatfield holds a Bachelor of Science in Plant and Soil Science from California State Polytechnic University. He is a well-known speaker who is active in the Cymbidium Society of America and the American Orchid Society, as well as several Southern California regional orchid organizations. George is an orchid judge for both the CSA and AOS, and is



currently the Chairman of the Santa Barbara judging region for the CSA. George is also a past-president of the CSA and was the Chairman of the CSA Cymbidium Congress from 1998-2001 and president of the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show in 2002 & 2003.

#### ALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY

### PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Hello to our POS members and we wish all of you a Happy Easter later this month. We hope many of you attended the San Diego Orchid Society's Spring Orchid Show this past weekend. If you did, you saw many beautiful exhibits, award winning plants and had the opportunity to purchase beautiful orchids from some of our favorite orchid growers.

If you did not make it to the show, you missed the beautiful POS Orchid Display that won two awards. The first award was The President's Trophy (Open) and the second was the Balboa Trophy (Amateur), both for the best display depicting the show theme, Orchid Fiesta. Each award comes with a plaque and a \$100 cash award. Many thanks to all the people who contributed to our exhibit, including the Display Committee, members who donated plants, others who helped pick up and deliver plants, and to those who help set up and break down the exhibit. It was hard work, but enjoyable and rewarding. We received numerous compliments from other orchid society members and attendees on our display. We have a lot to be proud of.

In addition, many of our members received blue ribbons and Best of Section Awards for orchids in the display and others submitted for judging. There are too many to mention here, so please see the pics and more details regarding our display and awards in the accompanying



article. However, we do want to acknowledge that Jerry and Anita Spencer won the Best in Show Trophy for their beautiful Ctt. (Lc.) Trick or Treat. We all know that they grow the most beautiful specimen orchids and they share their vast knowledge and *experience with us at each* meeting. Jerry and Anita also have volunteered to host an upcoming caravan to their home where we can see their beautiful orchid collection (again) and conduct a potting clinic for members so please mark the date of June 10 on your calendars for the caravan. More details on this event will be forthcoming in the May newsletter. We greatly appreciate Jerry and Anita's participation and generosity to our Society.

Last month, we continued our winning streak of informative and interesting programs/speakers by hosting an Expert Panel that provided excellent information on orchid culture for many of our newer/less experienced members. We thank the panel participants again for their contribution including Merle Robboy, Helge Weissig, Lisa Humphreys, and Jerry Spencer as well as Tom Wisniewski for organizing and moderating it. We welcome your feedback and suggestions throughout the year on how to make our programs more relevant to your needs.

As in last month's newsletter, we also want to ask our members to refrain from private conversations during meetings and especially during the speaker presentation. These conversations make it difficult for others to hear the speaker and are also discourteous to the speaker.

As a reminder, there will NOT be a monthly meeting in May due to the POS Annual Orchid Auction on May 6. Please mark your calendars to help support this important fundraiser. We still need volunteers to help in different capacities and all are important roles. It is our major and sole fundraiser, so please support this



effort by donating plants and divisions that you can share with others and signing up to volunteer at this month's meeting.

As always, Bill and Alex are available to listen to your suggestions, questions and concerns. Please call Bill at 760-931-0502 or Alex at 760-529-5814. Bill's email is <u>billtcwong@att.net</u>. Alex's email is <u>anadzan@mac.com</u>.

Look forward to seeing you on February 1st.

Alex Nadzan and Bill Wong Co-Presidents, POS

# Membership Dues & Roster

If you received an email asking for your 2017 dues, please renew or let us know you are not renewing. We would like to get a new roster out.

If you are a current member, let us know if you do not want some of your personal information (address, phone number, or email address) in the roster.

Thank you! Sandi Sandquist sandquist2@earthlink.net

# Gems From The March Meeting



Den. Gilleston Gold "Natalie" **Jim Anderson** 



Den. atroviolaceum ('Pygmy' x 'H & R') **Deborah Amis** 



Lysudamuloa Red Jewel Lisa Humphreys



Sophronites coccinea Alex Nadzan



Paph. Norito Hasegawa – Alex Nadzan







Phrag. Jason Fischer – Merle Robboy



B/c. Izumi Charm x SIc. Circle of Life – Suzi Johnson

### Full album at <u>www.palomarorchid.org</u>

## General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly meets the FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month at the Pavilion at Lake San Marcos (1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078).

Traveling on State Route 78, take the Rancho Santa Fe exit and head South. The entrance to

the Lake San Marcos Resort is on your left about a 1/4 mile South of the San Marcos Blvd. intersection. Traveling on I5 South from Oceanside and North Carlsbad, take the Palomar Airport exit and turn right onto Rancho Santa Fe after about 7 miles. Traveling North on I5 from South Carlsbad and Encinitas, for example, take the La Costa Ave. exit and turn left onto Rancho Santa Fe. The

entrance to the resort will be the first right after the fire station in San Marcos.

Inside the resort at the first "T" intersection, turn left on San Marino Drive. At the next 4-way STOP, turn right on La Bonita Drive. Proceed ahead for one block on La Bonita. The pavilion will be on the left and there is parking in front of the pavilion.

### PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY

# 2017 Orchid Sale & Auction

The time is now to prepare for our upcoming Annual POS Orchid Sale and Auction on Saturday, May 6, at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion. There will be beautiful blooming orchids and Mother's Day arrangements for sale during the preview only, which begins at 9:30 am. The auction will be held between 11:00 am and 3 pm. Several local and Hawaiian vendors will be providing plants including Kalapana Tropicals or Newman's Orchids (Hawaii), Cal Orchid, Rex Foster Orchids, Sunset Valley Orchids, as well as many others.

As in previous years, there will be snacks and a small plant raffle at no cost for auction participants. If you have any extra divisions or plants you would like to donate, please bring them in on Friday during the setup (3-7 pm) or before 9 am on Saturday. Also please bring a snack or dessert to share, your checkbook and/or credit card, and some empty boxes. Spread the word, invite a neighbor or friend and if you are on Facebook, visit the <u>Palomar Orchid page</u> and share our auction announcement with your Facebook friends. If your friends also share with their friends, the auction info will be widely distributed.

As you may be aware, this is our only fundraising activity during the year. Auction proceeds fund our educational speaker program and other society

activities so, if you can, come by and help out either on Friday (set up 3-7 pm) or on Saturday. We are still in need of volunteers and a sign up sheet will be available at the April meeting or contact Alex or Bill (refer to

President's Message for contact info).



Over 300 plants to be auctioned Plant raffle for auction participants We accept all major credit cards, checks, and cash

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

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

## POS Members Receive Multiple Awards at the SDCOS Show & Sale

The San Diego Orchid Societies Spring Show & Sale was a big success and many of our POS members received multiple awards and ribbons at the show. Most significantly, Anita and Jerry Spencer won the Sweepstakes Trophy for Best Orchid in the Show with their fantastic specimen plant of Ctt. (Lc.) Trick or Treat 'Rainbow Valley'. Moreover, this plant won the Thorne Trophy for Best Colored Cattleya Alliance in the Show, Best of Section 401 for Standard Cattleya Alliance as well as first place and cultural ribbons. Way to go Spencers!!!

Jerry and Anita's cymbidiums also received two trophies. The Spencer's pendulous cymbidium, Cym. Len Southward X Cym. Pepperpuss, won the Abernathy Trophy for Best Cymbidium (Amateur), Best of Section 301 and multiple ribbons. Moreover, their Cym. Doctor Len 'Geyserland' (all 3) was awarded the Foster Trophy for Best 3 Cymbidiums in Containers Not in a Massed Display (Amateur), Best of Section 333.01 plus multiple ribbons.

Phyllis Prestia was awarded the Peterson Trophy (Amateur) for Best 3 Cattleyas in Containers Not in a Massed Display as well as Best of Section 666.01 (Amateur) and a first place ribbon. She also won the Moore Trophy for Best White or Semi-alba Standard Cattleya and a first place ribbon for her namesake, Cattleya Phyllis Prestia AM/AOS.

Renate Schmidt won Best of Section1001B (Amateur) for Renantheria imschotiana and Best of Section 666.01 (Open) for 3 Cattleyas in Container Not in a Massed Display.

In addition, our sister society, the San Diego County Cymbidium Society, received the Jim Wright Trophy

### PALOMAR

## POS Exhibit at SDCOS Show Receives Top Awards

Many thanks to all who contributed to our orchid display at the Annual San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale, including everyone involved with the design, set up, and providing of accessories and plants, etc.. The exhibit was a great success and we received multiple compliments on the display from attendees and other participants. Our display won two trophies, The President's Trophy (Open) and the Balboa Trophy (Amateur), both for the best display depicting the show theme. Each trophy comes with a \$100 award.

Again, congratulations and sincere thanks to all who participated in the display. Finally, thanks to Gus, Rosita and their dog, Pedro, for the long hours spent posing in the display.

# Cymbidium Culture Sheet

These orchids are prized for their long-lasting sprays of flowers, used especially as cut flowers or for





corsages in the spring. There are two main types of cymbidiums - standards and miniatures. Where summer nights are warm (above 70 F), only miniatures can be recommended, because manyare more tolerant of heat and able to flower in warmer weather.

Light is important for growing cymbidiums. Coming from cool and bright areas in Asia, they need high light but cool temperatures. In many southern climates, high summer temperatures, especially at night, may prevent the plants from blooming. The maximum amount of light possible, short of burning, should be given to the plants. This means only light shade during the middle of the day, or about 20 percent shade. In cool areas (such as coastal California), full sun is tolerated. Leaves should be a medium to golden green in color, not dark green.

**Temperatures** are another critical factor in flowering standard and miniature cymbidiums. During the summer, standard cymbidiums are usually grown outside in semishade, where day temperatures should be 75 to 85 F (or more), but night

temperatures in the late summer to autumn (August to October) must be 50 to 60 F to initiate flower spikes. Optimum temperatures in winter are 45 to 55 F at night and 65 to 75 F during the day. When plants are in bud, temperatures must be as constant as possible, between 55 and 75 F. Miniatures can stand temperatures five to 10 degrees higher than standards and still flower. Most cymbidiums can tolerate light frosts and survive, but this is not recommended. Bring them inside when temperatures dip to 40 F. In mild climates, they can be grown outside year round. A bright and cool location inside is best for winter months.

Water to provide a constant supply of moisture to cymbidiums, which are semiterrestrial plants. They generally produce all their vegetative growth during the spring and summer and need the most water during that period. Water heavily during the growth season, keeping the potting material evenly moist. Reduce water when the pseudobulbs complete growing in late summer. Keep barely moist during the winter.

# March Judging Report

There were 10 orchids presented for judging, 3 were awarded.







Paph. U.R. (Paph. Yang-Ji Apple x Paph. rothschildianum) **Exhibited by Arnie Gum** Awarded HCC/AOS 77 points

# 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 Paul Tuskes at (858) 274 5829



Paph. Shun Fa Golden 'Piedmont' Exhibited by John Hagee Awarded HCC/AOS 77 points

Text by Phyllis S. Prestia Ed.D.

# SDCOS Show & Sale cont.

(Amateur) for the Most Artistic Exhibit.

Congratulations to all for participating in the show and displaying their wonderful award winning orchids.



Limited space prevents us from showing all photos of the plants listed above and highlighting all the other member orchids that received ribbons. However, interested members can view pics of the award winners on the SDCOS website in due course.

# Caravan and Re-potting Party at Anita and Jerry Spencer's Home

Please hold the date of Saturday, June **10**, for a caravan to Anita and Jerry Spencer's home. We will conduct a re-potting demo and party where members will be able to re-pot some of their plants with the help of more



experienced members. In addition, there will be a pot luck lunch and attendees will be able to view all of the Spencer's lovely plants and, hopefully, purchase some as well. Caravan details are in progress so watch for more information in the May newsletter.

# Cymbidium Culture cont.

**Humidity** outdoors is usually sufficient during the summer, except in dry climates, where evaporative cooling in a greenhouse is necessary. Keep humidity at 40 to 60 percent during the winter, especially if plants are in bud. Keep the air moving to prevent fungus (Botrytis) from spotting the flowers.

**Fertilize** at the proper time to help cymbidiums flower. During the growth season (spring through late summer), high nitrogen fertilizer (such as 30-10-10) is used. In late summer, use a high-phosphorus, blossom-booster fertilizer (such as 10-30-20), to help form bloom spikes. Fertilize at full strength every week to two weeks. In winter, fertilize once a month.

**Potting** is usually done in the spring after flowering, usually every two years or when the potting medium decomposes. Shake all of the old potting mix off the roots, dividing the plant if desired. Pick a water-retentive potting mix; medium-grade fir bark with peat moss and perlite is a common mix. Select a pot that will allow for at least two to three years of pseudobulb growth before crowding the pot, while planning on placing the active growing pseudobulb(s) of the division farthest from the side of the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of the mix in the bottom of the pot and fill the container with medium, working it among the roots, tamping firmly. Single backbulbs need not even be placed in mix until new growth and roots are noted. Keep shaded and warm until new growth sprouts, and pot as above.

This culture sheet was reproduced from the American Orchid Society (AOS) website. The AOS maintains <u>a series of</u> <u>culture sheets</u> for the main genera typically grown by hobbyists. POS is a member of the AOS.

# 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.

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 over grow 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 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 <u>The Orchid Source</u>).

Orchids that are in bloom require less water, which allows the flowers to last longer.

### 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.

## The Editor's Corner



It's been a while since the POS News has made it to 8 pages, yet this month there were several important topics and events to cover that took up 7 pages by themselves! As we are still sending out about 20 or so hardcopies every month (a big thank you to Ivan Allen for doing so), we added a cymbidium culture sheet and the April to-do list to bring it to an even number of pages. Hopefully everyone will enjoy the extra reading material!

Thank you to all the contributors to this month's newsletter! As editor, I have the much easier job of simply dropping them into the template I use, changing some dates here or there, and scouring various sources for orchid events for the calendar section. As mentioned previously, we are looking for someone to take on this task toward the latter half of the year. If you are interested, please contact me at the email below or during a break at the meetings!

Do you have any orchid related stories to share? Your comments, suggestions, and/or contributions to this newsletter are very much appreciated! Please email them to <u>newsletter@palomarorchid.org</u>.

Happy Growing!

# 2017 POS Officers

Alex Nadzan & Bill Wong — Co-President Tom Wisniewski & Alex Nadzan — Co-1st Vice President/Programs Marita Hoit & Jerry Spahn — 2nd Vice President/Raffle Sandi Sanquist — 3rd Vice President/Membership Frank Vogel — Secretary Vidya Sirsi — Treasurer Lisa Humphreys, Maryanne Kind, & Carl Wood — 2nd Year Trustees Susie Johnston, Suzie Sandore, & Cher Whelan — 1st Year Trustees Frank Vogel — Publicity Helge Weissig & Ivan Allen — Newsletter & Website Editors

Contact Us

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#### www

www.palomarorchid.org www.facebook.com/palomarorchid www.flickr.com/groups/palomarorchid/

# Upcoming Events

April 4, 2017 Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com

April 5, 2017 POS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos palomarorchid.org

April 7 - 9, 2017 Annual Spring Open House Andy's Orchids andysorchids.com

April 19, 2017 SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

April 21, 2017 Orchid Odyssey San Diego Zoo sandiegozoo.org

Orchid Auction South Bay Orchid Society southbayorchidsociety.com May 2, 2017 Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com

May 6, 2017 Annual Orchid Auction Palomar Orchid Society palomarorchid.org

May 17, 2017 SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

May 18, 2017 Annual Auction San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists sgvoh.org

May 19, 2017 Orchid Odyssey San Diego Zoo sandiegozoo.org

**June 6, 2017** Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com June 7, 2017 POS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos palomarorchid.org

June 16, 2017 Orchid Odyssey San Diego Zoo sandiegozoo.org

June 21, 2017 SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

July 5, 2017 POS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos palomarorchid.org

July 12, 2017 Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com

July 14 - 16, 2017 Annual Summer Open House Santa Barbara Orchid Estate sborchid.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, Pavilion at Lake San Marcos 1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078

