



# 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](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

A Monthly Publication

April 2023



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Monthly Meeting • Wednesday, April 5, 2023 • 6:30 pm



Brazilian Amazon and share with us some of his extensive knowledge of the Amazon to tell us what it is like, show some pictures of the area and highlight some of the orchids that can be seen there.

Gilberto is definitely a longtime expert on the Amazon and, since 2006 when he built his Houseboat 'Otter', he has conducted many expeditions using the Otter including 5 trips since 2015 for the Orchid Conservation Alliance. SDCOS's Peter Tobias, who organizes trips for the OCA, will be

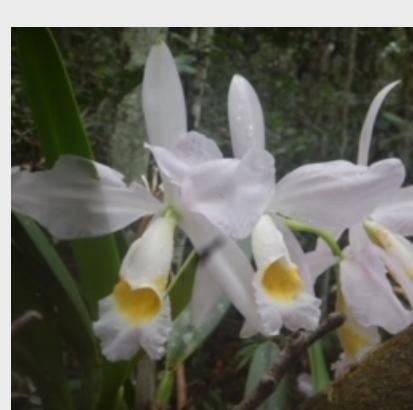


*Catasetum sp.* (male plant)

## Gilberto Castro

*he Brazilian Amazon,  
Some Myths, Some  
Truths and a Few of  
Its Orchids*

We are delighted to welcome Gilberto Castro, a native of Brazil, to speak to our society for the first time on Wednesday, April 5th. Gilberto will talk about the



*Cattleya eldorado*

hosting Gilberto during his visit to San Diego. Gilberto also will be speaking to SDCOS members on this same topic on Tuesday evening, April 4th in Balboa Park.

Gilberto Castro was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on April 8, 1949. He lived in the US from 1965 to 1966, attending as a junior at Benson High School in Omaha, Nebraska. He returned to Brazil to continue his education and graduated in

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## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Hello to all POS Members and Friends,

Spring is officially here, and we are enjoying the longer days with Daylight Savings Time. It's been an unusually wet winter and more rain is forecast in the month of March and early April. In California we have had 11 atmospheric river storms this season. Although many of the heavy storms and storm related damages have been in northern and central California, we have had a very wet winter in San Diego County that has recently opened sinkholes and resulted in some cliff collapse. The great news is we have reduced our usage of water and the drought may be over. Many of us have not had to water our outdoor orchids very much leaving more time for other activities.

Last month, we had two of our best POS orchid growers, Ken Campbell and Jerry Spencer, give us an excellent culture program. Jerry spoke about his "5 favorite Orchids, and Ken discussed "Orchid Pests and their Management". Thanks to both individuals for sharing their expertise with us. Thanks also to Jerry for providing the beautiful and generous opportunity table. Having expert POS members give talks is a nice deviation from talks by outside growers and it reduces society costs by not incurring speaker fees.

For our April program, we are sharing an international speaker with the San Diego Orchid Society. POS welcomes Mr. Gilberto Castro from Brazil who will talk on the "The Brazilian Amazon, Some Myths, Some Truths and a Few of Its Orchids". Information on Gilberto's interesting background and bio is included in the newsletter. We are pleased to work with our sister organization, SDCOS, on shared speakers and cooperating with them on several other activities.

An example of a currently shared activity is our joint support of the San Diego Botanic Garden's (SDBG) "World of Orchids" Show that recently opened from March 11-April 9. This is a beautiful exhibit that both societies have sponsored for the past three years. Most of the orchids are provided by members of our societies

and arranged by floral expert Rene van Rems and the garden staff. If you haven't seen the show yet, plan to do so as it is an outstanding exhibit. You have until April 9 to attend the show so please refer to the SD Botanic Garden's website for details ([www.sdbg.org](http://www.sdbg.org)). POS will be conducting a fundraiser to sell orchids donated by members and vendors at this event between March 31st thru April 2nd in order to raise much needed funds for the society. Invite your friends to the show and pick up some nice orchid plants for your collection. POS members will volunteer to man our booth, sell orchids and distribute information about our society.

In March some of our members attended the Santa Barbara Orchid Show and visited local orchid nurseries in the area. We are pleased that the show was a success, especially after the show was not held the past three years due to Covid. It's important for our orchid hobbyists to participate in these shows, since they are an important activity for the financial success of the growers and vendors.

On June 10th, POS will hold another fundraiser to sell members orchids at the Dove Library (Gowland Room) in Carlsbad. Members are encouraged to donate plants for the sale, so please consider sharing some of your divisions or plants to help support POS. This is the second of two fundraisers of the year since, because of Covid, we have not had a sale for the past three years. As mentioned in prior newsletters, membership fees are not enough to cover the cost of operating the society. There are many expenses you are not aware of that have been increasing due to inflation and we typically have been running at a deficit for the last few years. Plan to attend the sale and invite your friends as we will have many beautiful plants for the sale. Please note, that this is the second orchid sale for us this year. In the past we have held an auction, but the POS Board decided to switch to a sales



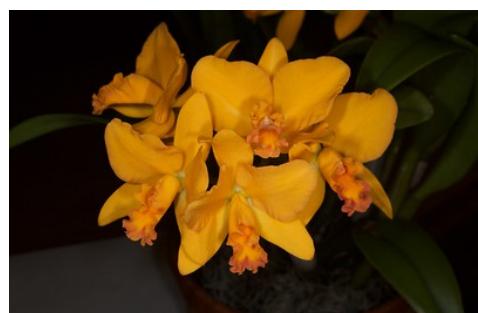
format to minimize costs of renting a larger facility needed for auctions.

We are pleased that many of our members have already renewed their annual membership. Thank you for the early renewal.

We hope our members and friends remain healthy, upbeat and optimistic about the future. We are aware of some health issues that some of our members are experiencing, a few of which are very serious. We will not mention any specifics, but as you read this newsletter, please say a prayer for all our members and friends that have health issues and hope for their speedy recovery.

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 or e-mail them at [president@palomarorchid.org](mailto:president@palomarorchid.org).

Alex Nadzan and Bill Wong  
Co-Presidents, POS



## Gilberto Castro cont.

Natural History at the "Instituto de Biologia", "Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro" in 1972, and at the "Faculdade de Educação" of the "Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro" in 1973.

As mentioned above, Gilberto has extensive experience in the Amazon, where he has traveled since 1975 and, over the last 47 years, has guided a number of different expeditions. He was a good friend of Margaret Mee, the famous British Botanical Illustrator, who discovered and documented in watercolors several new orchids in the Brazilian Amazon. He guided her



*Catasetum sp.* (female plant)

on the last of her 15 journeys to the Amazon in 1988. Moreover, he has guided 3 underwater filming trips for the Discovery Channel, 17 trips for the Margaret Mee Foundation, 5 trips for Kew Gardens of London, 39 Scientific Illustration trips with Illustrator Dulce Nascimento, participated on the film-

ing of the great "big screen" documentary Margaret Mee and the Moon Flower, and since 2015 has guided 5 trips for the OCA, in Rio Negro and some tributaries.

Gilberto was part of a 5 person team to go to the top of the Eldorado waterfall in 2014 and, in 2015, he was on the first team ever to reach the bottom of the Eldorado waterfall, the highest waterfall in the Brazilian Amazon. He also conducted countless eco-tours in the area and in the Pantanal (the wetlands on Midwest Brazil) that he crossed on off-road vehicles over 20 times on the 140 miles trek from east to west, and once on a solo crossing on foot on a west to east trek.

In addition to all this traveling, Gilberto started a business, sold it after 21 years, then did some computer programming for a small company in DOS based dBase program (some of it is still being used), and managed for some 20 years a sports fishing operation in the Amazon.

Gilberto's presentation is not to be missed especially if you want to experience the Amazon without the necessity of leaving the San Diego area. The April opportunity table will consist of orchids from Sunset Valley Orchids.

## Help for the POS Display at the SDCOS Spring Show

We are rapidly approaching the SD-COS Spring Show and Sale at Balboa Park on April 21 to 23. As in previous years, POS will be putting in an orchid display at the show and are looking

for individuals who want to participate by helping design the display, setting up (afternoon of April 20), taking it down at the end of the show, and / or providing plants for the display. The display this year will be a table top display consisting of two 8 ft. x 2.5 ft tables back-to-back (40 sq. ft) on either side of the stage in room 101 of Balboa Park. The show theme is 'Orchids of the Earth' and should be a good one to design and present a very nice display.

Should you be interested in participating in the display, we will have a signup sheet at the April 7th meeting or you can contact Bill at 760-931-0502 or Alex at 858-205-6789 or e-mail them at billtcwong@att.net or anadzan@mac.com.

## Attending the April Meeting via Zoom

We will broadcast the business and speaker part of our meeting via Zoom for those individuals who cannot attend in person. Any attendees should log in to the Zoom session by 6:40 pm. Should you have any problem during the meeting, please call or text Bill Wong at 818-636-8709 as Alex will be occupied with the speaker. The meeting information will be included in the email announcing the newsletter and link. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact Alex Nadzan by text or phone at 808-205-6789.

## General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly meets the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at the [George and Patricia Gowland Meeting Room located in the Carlsbad City Library](#) on Dove Lane, just off El Camino Real in southern Carlsbad. The address is [1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011](#).

Traveling South on I-5, take the Poinsettia Ln. exit and travel east to El Camino Real. Turn right on El Camino Real and turn right again on Dove Lane.

If traveling North on I-5, take the La Costa Ave. exit and travel east to El Camino Real. Turn left on Dove Lane (first traffic light after Aviara Pkwy.)

Traveling West on S-78, take the San Marcos Blvd. exit and travel west, continuing on Palomar Airport Rd.. Turn left on El Camino Real and then turn right on Dove Lane.

The Dove library will be on your left and there is a large, well-lit parking lot. The Gowland Meeting Room is located on the right hand side of the main entrance.

# March Judging Report

There were 10 orchids presented for judging. Three were awarded.



*Bulbo. echinolabium* 'Bravo Orchids'  
Exhibited by Bill Tse  
Awarded AM, 87 points



*C. intermedia f. orlata-aquinii*  
'Arnie's Best'  
Exhibited by Arnold Gum  
Awarded AM, 86 points



*Ophrys tenthredinifera*  
'Cassandra'  
Exhibited by David Brown  
Awarded HCC 78 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.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, all exhibitors and judges must wear a mask and follow a specific health protocol. For the time being, no visitors are allowed. For any questions, or 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 Phyllis Prestia at [orchldy1@mac.com](mailto:orchldy1@mac.com)





## Orange County Orchid Society

### ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION

EVERYONE WELCOME!

FREE ADMISSION!

Wednesday

April 19, 2023

6:30pm Preview

7:00pm Auction Begins

Cymbidiums Cattleyas

Phalaenopsis Dendrobiums

Oncidiums Species

And More....

Yorba Linda Community Center  
4501 Casa Loma Ave, Room C, Yorba Linda, CA

Information:

Anne-Line Anderson

714-446-9283 anneline45@gmail.com

Visit [www.ocos.net](http://www.ocos.net) for sale catalog on April 12



## ORCHIDS of the EARTH

San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale

April 21-23, 2023

Balboa Park's Casa del Prado  
Room 101 and Patios  
San Diego, California 92101  
Free Parking

Latest Event Details at  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

Friday 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Free Admission



## 2023 POS Officers

**Alex Nadzan & Bill Wong — Co-President**  
**Stewart Walton &**  
**Alex Nadzan — Co-1st Vice President/Programs**  
**Jerry Spahn — 2nd Vice President/Raffle**  
**Trudy Ibbetson — 3rd Vice President/Membership**  
**Maryanne Kind — Secretary**  
**Vidya Sirsi — Treasurer**  
**Suzi Sandore, Steve Redmond,**  
**Cecily Bird — 2nd Year Trustees**  
**Debra Funakoshi, Tom Wisniewski,**  
**Judy Dyer — 1st Year Trustees**  
**Helge Weissig — Website & Newsletter Editor, Publicity**  
**Debra Funakoshi — FaceBook Editor**

## Contact Us

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**Carlsbad CA 92013**

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**WWW**  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)  
[www.facebook.com/palomarorchid](http://www.facebook.com/palomarorchid)  
[www.flickr.com/groups/palomarorchid/](http://www.flickr.com/groups/palomarorchid/)



## Upcoming Events

### April 1, 2023

SDCOS Species Meeting  
 David Vanden  
[4davidv@gmail.com](mailto:4davidv@gmail.com)

### April 4, 2023

AOS Orchid Judging  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[aos.org](http://aos.org)

SDCOS General Meeting  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### April 5, 2023

POS General Meeting  
 Gowland Meeting Room  
 Dove Library, Carlsbad  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

### April 19, 2023

Orchid Auction  
 Orange County Orchid Society  
[ocos.net](http://ocos.net)

### April 21, 2023

Orchid Odyssey  
 San Diego Zoo  
[sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org)

### April 21 - 23, 2023

Spring Show and Sale  
 San Diego County  
 Orchid Society  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### April 23 - 30, 2023

Spring Open House  
 Norman's Orchids  
[orchids.com](http://orchids.com)

### May 2, 2023

AOS Orchid Judging  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[aos.org](http://aos.org)

SDCOS General Meeting  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### May 3, 2023

POS General Meeting  
 Gowland Meeting Room  
 Dove Library, Carlsbad  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

### May 6, 2023

SDCOS Species Meeting  
 David Vanden  
[4davidv@gmail.com](mailto:4davidv@gmail.com)

### May 19, 2023

Orchid Odyssey  
 San Diego Zoo  
[sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org)

### June 3, 2023

SDCOS Species Meeting  
 David Vanden  
[4davidv@gmail.com](mailto:4davidv@gmail.com)

### June 6, 2023

AOS Orchid Judging  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[aos.org](http://aos.org)

SDCOS General Meeting  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### June 7, 2023

POS General Meeting  
 Gowland Meeting Room  
 Dove Library, Carlsbad  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

### June 16, 2023

Orchid Odyssey  
 San Diego Zoo  
[sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org)



## Our Sister Society's Meetings

The 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  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

