



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 2012

President's Message

Gil Ho reports that he financial state of the Palomar Orchid Society is sound but we are looking for a CPA to do our books soon.

Page 2

POS Show Exhibit

Our exhibit at the San Diego County Orchid Society's Spring Show and Sale won second prize, a trophy, and received a cash reward! Many thanks to all the helpers and growers!

Page 2

LB1599 Has A Name!

Renee Daly won the naming rights to a Loren Batchman cross.

Page 3



Why Orchids?

Merle Robboy submitted a very personal account of the sale of an orchid collection.

Page 3

Judging Report

Results from the monthly judging sessions at the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park

Page 4

Gems from the last Meeting

Have a look at some of the pictures from the March general meeting.

Page 5



April Meeting • Wednesday, April 4, 2012 • 7 pm



Pest Management in Orchids

Bruce Kidd

We are delighted to welcome Mr. Bruce Kidd who will speak to us on "Pest Management in Orchids". Although Bruce is a retired professional pest control expert,

his talk will be geared toward preventative measures for the hobbyist to avoid pest problems in orchid collections, be they large or small. This is a very timely talk and should not be missed, since we are entering the spring and summer growing seasons when such pests become more active and require proactive steps to avoid problems.

It's been said that the only orchid growers who don't have pests like scale and mites are the ones with bad eyes. Or, that there are two kinds of growers; those who already have pest problems, and those who will. As the size of your collection grows, problems created by crowding, neglect and the promiscuous exchange of plant material assure that sooner or later you will have most of the major pests either as tourists or residents in all the areas where you grow plants.

A lot of the critters that live with us are too small to see with casual examination, and the damage they do to orchids is hard to recognize during the early stages when you still have a chance to do something about it. Many of the orchids you thought you couldn't grow were probably doing fine until some biological agent got involved and began to weaken your plant. When the death certificate reads "over watering", we need to understand that's really just code for oxygen starvation and

continued on page 4



Paphiopedilum with advancing tip rot on leaf. What should you do about it?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is doing well. There's been something on my mind lately. We are now going into spring time, and it should be nice, temperate and sunny, but this global warming thing (or so they say) has messed up the orchid growing weather here in southern California! I've had to bring plants in because it was too cold for some of the less mature plants. It also has rained for several consecutive weekends the last three months, whipping up winds and hail and even ripping off the roof of my shade structure twice! It even whipped up weather at the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, which despite of it, was reported to me as a pretty good show this year. All I have to say is, watch out for the hail (if it really does hail) and "batten down the hatches" so nothing blows away or gets knocked over!

Several of us visited Alex Nadzan's place recently, and his plants are blooming furiously, which brings me to caravans. Debra Funakoshi is preparing for the next upcoming caravan to members' homes to see how they grow. Both Alex and I, as well as Phyllis Prestia will be hosting, and we'll get the opportunity to talk about a wide range of growing interests and issues. Debra will provide more details at upcoming monthly meetings. A quick word of congrats also to our SDCOS Display Committee - Helge Weissig, Chair, Renee Daly, Cher Whelan, James Mickelson, Maryann Kind, Sandi Sandquist, Renate Schmidt, and myself, for a wonderful display this year. We won the theme trophy and \$200! Pictures are up on the website for viewing. Lastly, congrats to our membership secretary, Renee Daly for winning the Loren Batchman cymbidium blooming contest..

I have the pleasure of reporting that there are no major business or financial issues with regard to the society. Financially, we are doing well overall this first quarter of 2012, but are looking for an accountant to do yearly filings for POS given all the new tax laws. Plus, we are ahead \$200 from the SDCOS Show Display prize, without any expenditure from POS funds.

Don't forget to join us at the April meeting for Bruce Kidd, who will be speaking on orchid and plant pests. Bring all the questions that are "bugging" you (sorry for the pun)! Hope to see you there!

Happy Growing,



Gil Ho
President, POS

POS Exhibit at the San Diego Orchid Show

Our exhibit at the San Diego Orchid Society's Show and Sale won 'Best Exhibit Illustrating Show Theme', second place for a non-commercial exhibit, and a Balboa Trophy. Congratulations to the team and to all the growers who received ribbons. Our own Alex Nazdan's Blc. Izomi Charm x Slc. Circle of Life hybrid even received a 'Best in Section' award!

The theme of this year's San Diego Orchid Society's Spring Show and Sale was "Galaxy of Orchids". The team had come up with an idea to mount Christmas lights in a spiral fashion behind sheer black cloth so as to look like a galaxy. This



concept was beautifully realized by James Mickelson and provided a wonderful backdrop for the exhibit. Cher Whelan and Maryann Kind wrapped each pot in black cloth and Renee Daly, Sandi Sandquist, as well as Renate Schmidt helped in the set-up of the plants. Sandi and Gil Ho had created labels for each plant at the general meeting the night before. Plants were contributed by many members and, as mentioned above, many received ribbons and awards.

continued on page 3



A big thank you to the team for their great work and to all the growers for letting us use the plants. Pictures of the exhibit are shown on page 2 and the full album is available [on our website](#).



LB1599 Now Has a Name

The Loren Batchman unnamed Cymbidium contest was officially won by our own Renee Daly!

Renee was the first to contact Loren with a bloom on her plant. Formerly only known as LB1599, Loren will register it with the Royal Horticultural Society as "Cymbidium Jack and Sam" in honor of the late Jack Daly and Renee's dog Sammie, who also recently passed away.

The contest was open to all members of POS and several year-old plants were handed out in the spring of 2011. The first person to bloom one was to receive the naming rights for the hybrid. We are happy for Renee, who was able to immortalize her husband of many years as well as her dog.

Why Orchids?

Merle Robboy submitted a very personal account of the sale of an orchid collection.

Some years ago, a physician friend called me and asked whether I was interested in acquiring some orchids from a collection belonging to a patient of his. I indicated my interest but he did not know the number and types of plants available. Apparently, this was an older gentleman in his 80's who was selling his plants due to his infirmities and inability to upkeep and maintain a 40 year collection of orchids.

Included were a number of older hybrid cattleyas and BLC-LC crosses, some of which were actually made by the owner.

The pots were overgrown and the media breaking down, he seemed to know about most of the plants, their color, and forms. A few tags were missing but he still recognized the leaves and was able to identify many of these as well. There seemed to be a deep attachment and perhaps a subtle similarity to the aging plants to their venerable grower. Many had beautiful descriptions in Sanders (I later found), but none were in flower now.

I was tempted to ask why he grew these same plants for so long a time but felt it not appropriate to do so. These were his responsibility, his creations, his life's work, his reason to get up and face the world, and now he was making a major change in his routine of life.

As he watched the last of his plants being carried out to my car, he quietly turned away with the corners of his eyes filling with tears. He said nothing and slowly walked back into his house. I never saw the older gentleman again.

Six weeks later, he died; the fuel for the flame in his life had been removed.

Upcoming Events

April 3, 2012

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

April 4, 2012

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

April 18, 2012

SDCCS General Meeting

April 20, 2012

Orchid Odyssey
events.sandiegozoo.org

May 1, 2012

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

May 2, 2012

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

May 16, 2012

SDCCS General Meeting



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
bclark@sdorchids.com

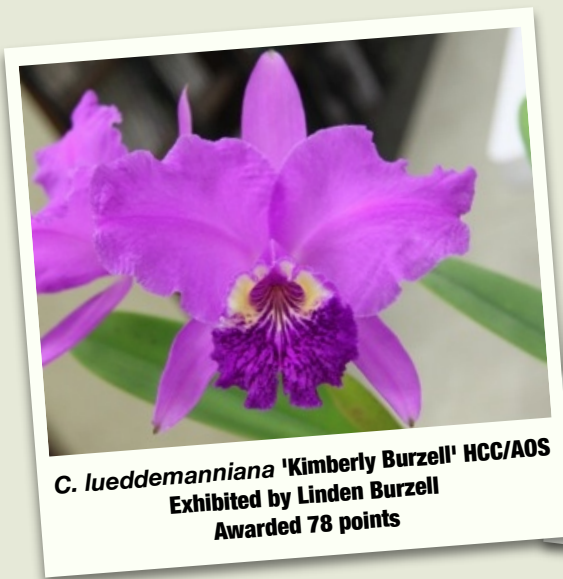
San Diego Cymbidium Society

Regular meetings 3rd Wednesday of each month, September-June, 7pm, San Diego Botanic Garden, Ecke Building, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024
Phyllis Prestia (760) 732-0055
orchldy2@mac.com



March Judging Report

There were 5 orchids presented for judging and 2 were awarded.



C. lueddemanniana 'Kimberly Burzell' HCC/AOS
 Exhibited by Linden Burzell
 Awarded 78 points



Rth. Topaz Love 'Feuerback' AM/AOS
 Exhibited by Renate Schmidt
 Awarded 80 points



Angraecum loddisia
 Exhibited by Ray Brandt



C. lueddemanniana
 Exhibited by Linden Burzell



Solenidium portillae
 Exhibited by Gin Gan

Concerning Judging Sessions

The Pacific South Judging Center conducts each month three judging sessions in the Los Angeles and San Diego area. They are:

San Diego

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104
 1st Tuesday of the month at 6 pm

San Marino

Huntington Botanical Gardens
 2nd Saturday of the month at 10 am

Long Beach

Whaley Park
 4th Saturday of the month at 7 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

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



Phalaenopsis with rotting basal leaf.
 What really causes this?

Bruce Kidd *cont.*

bacterial invasion through wounds, plus any bad karma you contribute. Water doesn't kill plants, not without help.

The basics of orchid cultivation are environmentally driven, with temperature,

light, water, media and fertility the most important. Take care of those and usually the orchid will do the rest, until the family cat knocks the plant over and breaks it. Can't help you with that one! "Pest Management in Orchids" is about identification and control of common orchid maladies, using cultural techniques and a few miracle cures to illustrate the process. You'll see some unusual pictures of orchids and the wildlife they attract, learn how the pests behave and how to discourage them safely.

Bruce holds an M.Sc degree from the University of Arizona in Weed Science and lives in Murrieta with Yasue, his wife of 38 years. Bruce retired in 2010 from a 30-year career with Dow AgroSciences, where he worked as a technical

sales representative marketing Dow's products to the professional turf and ornamental industry. Some of his first experiences with orchids came while recommending pest control strategies for orchid growers in California and Hawaii. He is a past president of the San Diego County Cymbidium Society, a popular speaker at Southern California Orchid Societies, and an avid orchid enthusiast, growing about 500 very tough orchids in a greenhouse and outdoors.



Gems From The Last Meeting



Cym. Gold Strike - Sharon Ewton



Fred Clarke, our guest speaker



Renate Schmidt conducted the culture class



Phal. Kuntrarti Rarashati 'Copperstate' - Marita Hait



Ansellia africana Debra Funakoshi



Cym. Sarah Jean Alex Nazdan



Lemboglossum rossii Iso Zehner



Blc. Izumi Charm x Slc. Circle of Life Alex Nazdan



Zygopetalum Kiwi Korker 'Kutie' x Mishima Goddess 'Burgundy' Cecily Bird



Bulbophyllum eberhardtii Merle Robboy

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

Meeting Wrap-up

Fred Clarke's talk on Australian Dendrobiums and their culture was very well received. As always, Fred gave an entertaining and informative presentation focusing both on the origin of the native Australian Dendrobium species as well as the current state of the art in their hybridization.

Renate Schmidt conducted the culture class and gave tips on how to get orchids ready for the spring growing season.

We welcomed five guests: Joe Dung, Ellen Shada, Ellen Thorpe, Marie Yoshida, and Helen Nguyen.

General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society 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. Culture Class starts at 6:30 pm. The regular meeting begins at 7:00 pm. The next regular meeting will be on April 4, 2012.



The Editor's Corner



Although our efforts on the SDCOS Spring Show exhibit got a bit of a late start this year, I was really quite happy with the outcome! Of course, having such dedicated volunteers and generous growers to rely on, made things much, much easier when it came to setting everything up. I must say though, that "going with the theme" ("A Galaxy of Orchids") felt a little restrictive and since I tend to be a "natural kinda guy" anyways, my personal inclination for next year would be to try the natural setting that the Newport Beach Orchid Society's first placed exhibit had such success with this year. Congratulations to them for a well-deserved first price.

Oh, and "natural" would of course also be my explanation for the much-overgrown state of my backyard! Like many of you, I have been spending quite a bit of time weeding and grooming over the past few weekends. The late rains we had did wonders for all sorts of uninvited botanical guests and it has been a chore to get on top of their growth spurts. However, the lush green mixed with the colorful blooms of many of my Cymbidiums are a very nice reward indeed.

Thanks to Merle Robboy for his article featured on page 3. I welcome any submissions and suggestions at newsletter@palomarorchid.org. Deadline, as always, is the 15th of the month!

Happy Growing!

POS Officers

Gil Ho — President
Alex Nazdan — 1st Vice President
Debra Funakoshi — 2nd Vice President
Renee Daly — 3rd Vice President
Lena Shiroma — Secretary
Christina Hsing — Treasurer
Janet Lomba, Pat Schmidt, Cher Whelan — 2nd Year Trustees
Merle Robboy, Renate Schmidt,
Warren Stehle — 1st Year Trustees
Helge Weissig — Newsletter Editor

Contact Us

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