



# 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**

**December 2013**

**POS Officer Elections**

The November meeting was our annual meeting and the election of the POS officers for 2014 was held as stipulated by the bylaws.

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**December To Do List**

Short days and cold nights in December will slow down the metabolism of most of your orchids and initiate spikes on early blooming orchids

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**Gems from the Last Meeting**

Betty Kelepecz gave a highly entertaining and educational lecture on growing Masdevallias.

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**POS Upcoming Speakers**

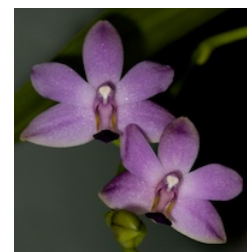
The line-up of speakers and events for the first part of 2014 includes some new speakers and our annual auction in May.

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**Calendar of Events**

The big events this month include the annual holiday party and an open house extravaganza by four local vendors.

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**Annual Holiday Party • Wednesday, December 4, 2013 • 6:30 pm**

*Palomar Orchid Society  
Holiday Dinner*



*Chin's Szechwan Restaurant – San Marcos  
December 4, 2013 • 6 pm*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*The holiday season is now upon us and I trust everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with friends and family. At this time of the year it is important to reflect on the many accomplishments of our society and be thankful for all the members and officers who volunteered numerous hours of their time to make POS a success. I personally appreciate all that you have done and, in particular, recognize the outgoing officers and trustees who offered their invaluable help and advice to me over the year. I now look forward to working with the newly elected board to make 2014 an even better year for POS than the last.*

*I want to remind you to add to your calendar the upcoming Greater San Diego Orchid Growers' Open House being held during the weekend of December 7 and 8. It is important to support our local growers as they have been highly supportive of POS with contributions of plants for our annual fundraising auction and the invaluable orchid expertise they provide to us both individually and as a society. We are very lucky to have such talented growers and orchid hybridizers in our own backyard who offer us a wide diversity of orchids to add to our collections.*

*Finally, I hope to see many of you at the Holiday Dinner on December 4 at Chin's Szechwan Restaurant in San Marcos. We will be installing the new officers as well as revealing the Member of the Year and the recipient of the Orchid Digest Diamond Award. We always have fun at this event so please have your reservations in to Elf Mitton by November 27 at the latest. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the party!*

*Finally, best wishes to all for a Joyful, Safe and Happy Holiday Season and Prosperous New Year!*



Alex Nadzan  
President, POS  
(760) 753-6280  
anadzan@mac.com



## POS Board Elections

*The November meeting was our annual meeting and the election of the POS officers for 2014 was held as stipulated by the bylaws.*

The Nominating Committee (Cher Whelan and Gil Ho) submitted the following slate of officers, which was approved by voting by the members in attendance.

Slate of Officers:	
President:	Alex Nadzan
1st VP/Programs:	Renate Schmidt
2nd VP/Raffle:	Terri Lofthouse and Donna Steinbrenner
3rd VP/Membership:	Sandi Sandquist and Cher Whelan
Secretary:	Anne Gold
Treasurer:	Vidya Sirsi
1st Year Trustees:	Lisa Humphreys, James Mickelson, and Merle Robboy
Publicity:	Maryanne Kind and Allie Tran
Newsletter:	Helge Weissig

The elected Officers will be installed at the annual Holiday Dinner on December 4, 2012.

## POS Lifetime Members

Congratulations to June Anderson and Don Rosenstock who were recently ap-

proved by the board as Lifetime Members of POS. June and Don have been members for over 35 years, each joining the society in the 1970s. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated, long-term members who remain active contributors and participants in our society.

## Orchid To Do List for December

### General

- Short days and cold nights in December will slow down the metabolism of most of your orchids and initiate spikes on Fall/Winter blooming orchids. Watch them very carefully and cut back on water and fertilizer as cooler days and nights prevail.
- As watering needs of most plants decrease during the winter, be sure to leach your plants thoroughly. Extend your last watering to remove any accumulated salt built-up in the substrate and root system. Excess mineral built-up prevent plants from absorbing the fertilizer and nutrients they need and may lead to deficiencies during dryer conditions. The St. Augustine Orchid Society hosts [a very good collection of articles](#) on water quality.
- Protect outdoor orchids from winter rains. Keeping them on the dryer side will allow them to tolerate the cold winter nights we can experience in Southern California.
- Bring in cold-sensitive, warm growing orchids (phals, paphs, tolumnias, most vandas and some warm growing cattleyas such as violacea, dowiana and their hybrids) to protect them from night temperatures below 50o. An excellent article on 'Cold Tolerance of Orchids' by Sue Bottom of the St. Augustine Orchid Society can be found [in their October Newsletter \(pgs. 9-11\)](#)
- Cold tolerant orchids, including Odon-toglossums, Miltonias, Pleurothallids, Masdevallias, and Draculas, will wel-

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# Gems From The Last Meeting



**Betty Kelepecz**



**Dendrobium Enobi Purple  
Anita Spencer**



**Cattleya Tristar Bouquet – Anita Spencer**



**Paphiopedilum Angel Hair  
– John Hagee**



**Lc. San Diego Sunset 'Leucadia' x B/c.  
Norman's Bay 'Gothic' – Maryanne Kind**



**B/c. Volcano Blue 'Datsun'  
Alex Nadzan**



**Cymbidium Chens Ruby  
Alex Nadzan**



**Lycaste Aquila – Merle Robboy**



**Phrag. besseae x Phrag. Scarlet  
O'Hara – Allie Tran**

Photos by Helge Weissig - full album at [www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

## 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). Please note, there is no regular meeting in December.

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.

## November Judging Report

There were two orchids presented for judging, none was awarded.

### 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

## The Greater San Diego Orchid Growers' Open House

Saturday and Sunday, December 7 and 8, 2013

Just in time for the holiday season, several of our local orchid nurseries including Andy's Orchids, Sunset Valley Orchids, Casa De Orquideas, and Rudvalis Orchids will be holding open houses on December 7 and 8. Rex Foster Orchids in Lemon Grove will be holding a tour on Saturday and also will be open on Sunday for business. It is a fantastic opportunity to support these vendors that are so generous to POS during the year and to add to your collection some favorite orchids at discount prices. Please refer to each vendor's individual ad for times, location and additional details.

### ANDY'S ORCHIDS OPEN HOUSE

December 7th & 8th  
Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
734 Ocean View Ave.  
Encinitas, CA 92024

### RUDVALIS ORCHIDS Open House

Saturday & Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm



come see thousands of the most beautiful and colorful award winning Cymbidiums in the world

#### Wholesale Prices!

Off of I-5.....East Poinsettia Road .....Right on Black Rail Road  
Right on Triton.....Left at Dead end onto dirt road.....Follow dirt road to greenhouses  
Other than open houses ...visits to nursery are arranged by appointment only ..... To order flowers at wholesale prices. Email or call...  
[www.rudvalisorchids.com](http://www.rudvalisorchids.com) 760-438-2121

*Casa de las Orquideas*  
**presents:**



## OUR ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

**sale prices on  
cymbidiums,  
zygopetalums,  
and more!**

**December  
7 & 8, 2013  
9 am - 4 pm**

**170 S. Nardo Ave.  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
858.755.7572  
casa@orquideas.com  
www.orquideas.com  
parking is limited, street parking preferred!**

### SUNSET VALLEY ORCHIDS INC. Open House

**Once a year discounts on all our stock!**

New Zealand 'Kiwi Orchid Bark'  
This is the best bark available in the USA! \$20 per bag

Casa de Las Orquideas has its open house this weekend too!

Saturday and Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 4:00  
1255 Navel Place, Vista CA 92083 (760) 310-0778  
[www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com](http://www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com)

come the cooler weather and respond by initiating growth so continue to water and fertilize them during this period but also protect from freezing temps.

- Fall/winter blooming Cattleyas and Cymbidiums are now in bud or bloom. Provide adequate water and fertilizer, but do so in the mornings so plants dry out before nightfall. Stake cymbidium spikes to guide inflorescences for support of buds and blooms.
- Maintain good hygiene practices to minimize transmission of pests and viruses. Watch for fungus and bacterial rot in cold and wet weather.
- More details on specific genera can be found on the [AOS website](#)

## Indoors and Greenhouse

- Carefully monitor greenhouse temperatures and check that circulating fans, automatic vents, humidifiers and heaters are in good working order.
- Continue to provide good air circulation for indoor plants to discourage diseases and pests such as mealy bugs and scale. Be sure to check all edges of the pot and neighboring pots. Pests, especially mealy bugs also can be found on the bottom of pots. Treat early to avoid spreading to other plants. More info on pests and diseases can be found at the [AOS website](#).
- Cut back on watering and frequency of fertilizing in winter. Avoid over fertilizing to minimize root damage and growth of soft growths. Keep to one half to one fourth the recommended amount on the package.

## Outdoors

- Continue to monitor and control snails, slugs and pests as cooler and wet weather will bring them out. They can do considerable damage to plants in short order.

- Try not to use water that is much cooler than the plants as their tissues can be shocked. Watering early in the day will facilitate that and allow plants to dry before nightfall in order to minimize bacterial and fungal diseases.
- Most Cymbidiums are now in spike or bloom so switch from high nitrogen fertilizer to one with higher phosphorus and potassium (Hi Bloom such as 10-30-20) to initiate and stimulate spike production. Stake spikes early to train them to grow upright while spikes are flexible. Find out more at [the AOS culture pages for Cymbidiums](#).
- Members of the Catasetinae family (catasetums, clowesia, cynoches, and mormodes) are entering their dormant period as evidenced by the yellowing and dropping of leaves. Note that some actually initiate spikes at the outset or during their dormant period. Cut back and eventually eliminate water and fertilizer until Spring as recommended by Fred Clarke [on his website](#).
- Most Phalaenopsis are very sensitive to cold and should be inside your home or in a greenhouse by now and starting to spike. Be sure to stake spikes early to train them to grow upright for optimal display of blooms.
- For Phalaenopsis lovers, Orchid Digest Magazine devoted their most recent issue (Oct., Nov., Dec., 2013, Vol. 77-4) to this popular class, including topics on culture and temperature sensitivity and recent advances in Phalaenopsis breeding. The issue has some great articles and fantastic pictures and, for individuals who don't subscribe, it can be ordered from [the Orchid Digest website](#).

## Orchid Tour at Rex Foster Orchids

Saturday, December 7, 10 am  
2645 Massachusetts Ave.  
Lemon Grove

John Walters and Billy Baker of Rex Foster Orchids will be offering a 20% discount!

Nursery Phone: 619.466.0605  
Billy Baker Phone: 619.316.4331

Parking is limited so carpool and drop off at nursery and park on street.

Rex Foster also will be open on Sunday, December 8 if you cannot make it on Saturday.

*The monthly To Do list is a collaboration of several POS members. We appreciate any and all comments, suggestions, and feedback on our new feature. Please send them to [newsletter@palomarorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@palomarorchid.org)!*

## Upcoming POS Speakers and Events for 2014

**Jan. 8:** Dan Newman, Hanging Gardens, Pacifica, CA - 'Dendrobiums and their Culture'

**February 5:** Sandra Tillisch Svoboda, President American Orchid Society, Santa Barbara, CA - 'Breeding with Recently Described Paphiopedilums from Vietnam'

**March 5:** Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids, Vista, CA - 'New Talk on Growing Catasetums'

**April 2:** Orchid Culture Panel - Speakers and topics to be determined.

**May 7:** Auction Training and Special Opportunity Table for Attendees

**May 17:** Annual Fundraising Auction, Lake San Marcos Pavilion

## The Editor's Corner



Believe it or not, after three years of being part of a wonderful orchid society, I will finally be able to attend our Holiday Dinner next week. The past couple of years, I was on travel for work and unable to attend and I am very much looking forward to attending this year. In addition, I will also have the honor to bestow the 2013 Member of the Year Award to a very deserving fellow member. It should be a very fun event!

My apologies for the delay in this month's newsletter. Hopefully, with most garden work on hiatus, almost all kids' birthdays behind me, and most of the holiday shopping done, I will have more leisure time and will get the December edition out sooner. I will also need to include the article on orchid judging I had promised last month but did not get to yet. Maybe this would be a good time to hire an assistant... if you are interested, let me know. The pay isn't great, but I personally find it highly rewarding to get this little publication "off the presses" every month.

As always, any and all contributions to the newsletter or website are very welcome. Please email them to [newsletter@palomarorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@palomarorchid.org). Submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

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 Mitton, Lena Shiroma** — 1st Year Trustees  
**Helge Weissig** — Newsletter & Website Editor

## Contact Us

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**Carlsbad CA 92013**

**POS News**  
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**Website**  
[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

### November 29 & 30, 2013

Black Friday Sale  
 Andy's Orchids  
[andysorchids.com](http://andysorchids.com)

### December 3, 2013

San Diego County Orchid Society  
 Holiday Dinner  
[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

### December 4, 2013

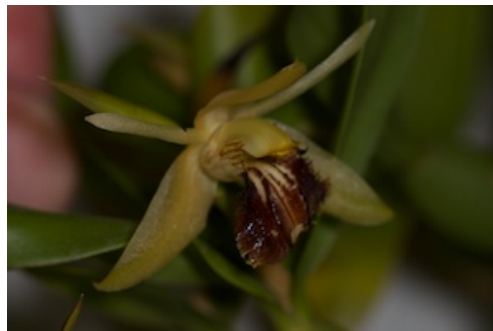
POS Annual Holidays Dinner and  
 Officers Installation  
 Chin's Szechwan Restaurant  
 Elf Mitton (760) 439 3806

### December 7, 2013

San Diego County Orchid Society  
 Rex Foster Orchid Tour  
 Jim Wright (619) 208 7272

### December 7-8, 2013

The Greater San Diego Orchid  
 Growers' Open House.  
[Andy's Orchids](http://Andy's Orchids), [Sunset Valley Orchids](http://Sunset Valley Orchids),  
[Casa De Orquideas](http://Casa De Orquideas),



and [Rudvalis Orchids](http://Rudvalis Orchids).

### December 18, 2013

SDCCS General Meeting

### December 20, 2013

Plant Day & Orchid Odyssey  
 San Diego Zoo  
[events.sandiegozoo.org](http://events.sandiegozoo.org)

### January 7, 2014

Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting  
[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

### January 8, 2014

POS General Meeting  
 Dan Newman  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

### January 15, 2014

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  
[membership@sdorchids.com](mailto: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  
 Bill Wong (760) 931-0502  
[billtcwong@att.net](mailto:billtcwong@att.net)