



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.

A Monthly Publication

January 2020

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January 8, 2020 6:30 pm

Lake San Marcos Conference Center



We are delighted to welcome back Mary Gerritsen from the San Francisco Bay area who will speak to us on 'Miniature Orchids and How to Grow Them'. Mary defines miniatures as those species whose individual growths are smaller than 6 inches not including the inflorescence. These compact orchids are a popular choice for orchid hobbyists with limited growing space. In contrast to many of their larger counterparts, many miniature orchids are attractive in or out of bloom. Mary's lecture will cover many of her favorite species as well as discussing the challenges and rewards of growing miniature orchids.

Mary is an expert on this topic and has co-authored "A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species" with San Francisco Bay area photographer and author, Ron Parsons.

Mary Gerritsen, Ph.D. is an independent biotechnology consultant who has been growing orchids (mostly species) on and off for more than 30 years, and since relocating to the San Francisco Bay area in 1997, she started a collection of small cool growing miniature species such as Masdevallias, Porroglossums, Lepanthes and other assorted tiny gems. She also has a second intermediate greenhouse, filled with larger species such as Angraecoids, Dendrobiums, Oncidiums, Laelias, Phalaenopsis and Bulbophyllums. She loves to see orchids growing in situ, and has made it her mission over the last few years to see as many as possible, with trips to

see and photograph orchids (and other flora as well) in Canada, many parts of the USA and Mexico, and countries in Central America (Costa Rica, Panama), South America (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela), South East Asia (Borneo, southern and southwestern China, Sulawesi, northern Thailand, Papua New Guinea), Western Australia, Europe (Crete, Cyprus, Germany, Mallorca, Rhodes and Sicily) as well as South Africa and Madagascar.



Porroglossum aureum



Cattleya reginae

Mary is the co-author of several botanical books: Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World; Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives; A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species; A Bay Area Guide to Orchids and their Culture; and the American Orchid Society Guide to Orchid and their Culture, with fellow San Francisco Orchid Society Member and well known photographer, Ron Parsons.

Mary frequently lectures to orchid societies in the San Francisco Bay area, and on occasion, nearby Southern California, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona and sometimes even

further afield (Missouri, Kansas, Canada). She is on the board of directors of the Orchid Digest, the chief operating officer and treasurer of the Orchid Conservation Alliance, and is also a member of the American Orchid Society, the San Francisco Orchid Society, the Peninsula Orchid Society and the Pleurothallid Alliance.



Bulbophyllum hirundinis

*Snacks & Refreshments This month, all members with last names beginning **C through N** will 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!*



General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly meets the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at 6:30 pm at the Conference Center 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 and 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 conference center will be on the left and there is plenty of parking in front.

President's Message

Hello POS Members and Friends,

Alex and Bill hope all of you have a Happy Holiday season and wish you and your family a wonderful New Year. We hope 2020 brings each of you good health, happiness and successful orchid growing.

On December 4th we concluded our 2019 program with a wonderful holiday dinner at the Lake San Marcos Pavilion. About 43 members and family attended the dinner and everyone definitely enjoyed the event. It was a good time to interact with other members and get to meet their family and/or friends. Each attendee received a beautiful blooming orchid from Kalapana Tropicals.

We inducted the 2020 board members who are vital to maintaining a viable and vibrant society. We also thank each of the prior board members (majority are continuing) for their contributions and thank the new board members, in advance, for their support in the coming year.

At the holiday dinner, the 2019 POS Member of The Year Award was awarded to Vidya Sirsi. We thank Vidya for her excellent service to POS, not only for 2019, but for previous years as well. A second award, the Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence, was presented to

Anita and Jerry Spencer for their longtime service to our society. In addition, they were made lifetime members of POS. More details on the recipients of these awards are provided in the accompanying articles.

As many of you know, the cost of running our society is becoming more expensive every year. Our meeting room rental fee, speaker fees, plant table expenses and rental for our Annual Auction continues to increase. Orchid vendors have raised their prices and we end up spending more for each event. Society dues don't begin to cover our expenses, and the annual POS Orchid Auction that makes up much of the shortfall is still not enough. Since the annual auction is our primary fundraising event, please be sure to save the date of Saturday, May 9, 2020 on your calendars to participate by donating plants, volunteering your time and attending to add some new orchids to your collections.

Individual donations of plants and financial contributions are welcomed and sincerely appreciated. At the end of 2019, one of our board members, Steve Redmond, donated \$500 to POS. Steve has been a valuable contributor to our programs and activities even though he lives in Gardnerville, Nevada. Thank you, Steve, for

your generous donation, which is very much appreciated. Other members who wish to make contributions should see Alex or Bill.

We are in the early stages of planning our 2020 programs and activities. Our goal is to have as good a program as last year. Our speaker for January will be Mary Gerritsen from the Bay Area who spoke to us some years ago. Mary will talk on "Miniature Orchids and How to Grow Them" and she will make the same presentation at the San Diego County Orchid Society meeting on Tuesday. If you want to hear Mary speak, please come to the POS meeting on January 8th. Since we have several new members of the society, we intend to focus some of the meetings in 2020 on orchid basics and cultural aspects of growing orchids. We will announce upcoming speakers as they develop but hope to invite back some of our regular speakers and mix in a few new ones as well.

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 e-mail is billtcwong@att.net. Alex's e-mail is anadzan@mac.com

Vidya Sirsi Receives the 2019 Member of the Year Award



At our POS meeting in November, meeting attendees voted to select Vidya Sirsi as the 2019 Member of the Year, among several other deserving members including Ken Campbell, Susan Johnston, and Cher Whelan. Vidya was presented the 2019 POS Member of The Year Award by Co-president, Bill Wong at the December Annual Holiday Dinner.

We thank Vidya for her excellent service to POS, not only for 2019, but for previous years as well. Vidya has served as POS treasurer for several years and, as such, she has managed the Society's finances and ensured the financials are monitored and balanced. She has handled all banking transactions for the society and made sure all expenditures were paid in a timely manner. Although several of her contributions are done behind the scenes, she can be seen at every meeting writing out checks to members, officers and speakers. Vidya also has volunteered for additional POS activities and has been a key person involved with our Annual POS Auction handling all the monies received and the societies tax matters related to the auction. In addition, Vidya regularly interacts with both members and visitors at monthly meetings and is friendly and helpful to all. Her recognition is well deserved and we look forward to her continued contributions in years to come.

Contact Us:

Palomar Orchid Society

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Email

newsletter@palomarorchid.org

WWW

www.palomarorchid.org

www.facebook.com/palomarorchid

www.flickr.com/groups/palomarorchid/

2019 POS Officers

Co-President: Alex Nadzan & Bill Wong

Co-1st Vice President/Programs: Tom Wisniewski & Alex Nadzan

2nd Vice President/Raffle: Jerry Spahn & Jim Anderson

3rd Vice President/Membership: Trudy Ibbetson

Secretary: Sandy Sandquist

Treasurer: Vidya Sirsi

1st Year Trustees: Judy Dyer, Debra Funakoshi & Stewart Walton

2nd Year Trustees: Steve Redmond, Suzi Sandore and Cher Whelan

Publicity: Helge Weissig

Newsletter Editor: Susan Johnston

Website Editor & Publicity: Helge Weissig and Geradeen Sanitiago to assist him

Facebook Editor: Debra Funakoshi



Anita and Jerry Spencer Receive the Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence

Congratulations to Anita and Jerry Spencer for receiving the Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence at our annual Holiday Party on December 4, 2019. The Spencers also were made lifetime members of our society in recognition of their continuing service to the society. The award announcement will be published internationally in the April 2020 issue of Orchid Digest magazine and will read as follows: "The Palomar Orchid Society (POS) takes great honor and pleasure in announcing Anita and Jerry Spencer as the 2019 recipients of the Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence. Anita and Jerry have been long-time members of our society and both are expert growers of Cattleya, Cymbidium, and Dendrobium species and hybrid orchids. The Spencers have over the years won many awards for their specimen orchids and frequently share their most beautiful flowering plants with the POS membership during our meeting's Show and Tell section. Jerry has participated in teaching several culture classes and both have hosted re-potting workshops and caravans for the regional societies. Anita and Jerry also have regularly donated plants for the annual POS fundraising auction. Accordingly, they are highly deserving of the Orchid Digest Diamond Award from our society".

Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park), December, 2019

Text by Phyllis Prestia. Photos by Phyllis and Arnold Gum as marked.

There were 8 orchids presented for judging. Three were awarded.

Pot. Dogashima Paradise 'Strawberry' AM/AOS

Exhibited by Debbie Halliday

Awarded AM/AOS 83 points (Upgraded from HCC)

Paph. henryanum 'Arnie' HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Arnold Gum

Awarded HCC/AOS 78 points

Paph. purpuratum HCC/AOS

Exhibited by David Brown

Awarded HCC/AOS 79 points



Pot. Dogashima Paradise 'Strawberry' AM-AOS

Paph. purpuratum 'Arnie' HCC/AOS



2019-20 CSA San Marino Judging
Center Schedule Judging Cymbidiums,
Paphiopedilums, Phragmipediums
Huntington Botanical Gardens Mishler
Resource Building 1151 Oxford Road,
San Marino, CA 91108 12:30pm
Registration 1:00pm Judging Next
sessions are: Jan. 11, Feb. 8, March 7
None, April 11, May 8, Aug. 9, Sept. 12,
Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12

Contact Phyllis Prestia,
San Marino Judging Chair

orchldy1@mac.com

Paph henryanum HCC/AOS



WINTER SHOW
"Orchids in the Park"
January 25–26, 2020
 Balboa Park's Casa del Prado, Room 101

Newport Harbor Orchid Society
Orchid Expo & Sale 2020

Westminster Mall
 Orange County, CA

February 7, 8 & 9

Friday: 10am-9pm
Saturday: 10am-8pm
Sunday: 11am-6pm

Contact: info@nhosinfo.org



Orchids on Parade

Re-potting Classes 2pm each day
 Orchid Displays • Vendor Sales

Now located on 2nd Floor (near Penney's wing)
www.nhosinfo.org/orchidshow

75TH
SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

ORCHIDS - A WORLD OF ADVENTURE
 WITH GRAND MARSHAL JOHN PALMINTERI

MARCH 13-15, 2020
9AM - 5PM

EARL WARREN SHOWGROUNDS • SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

GENERAL ADMISSION - \$14 | SENIORS, STUDENTS W/ID, ADVANCE GROUP SALES - \$12
 3-DAY PASS - \$22 | CHILDREN 12 & UNDER WITH PAID ADULT - FREE

[@OrchidShow](https://twitter.com/OrchidShow) • SBOrchidShow.com • [#SBOrchidShow](https://twitter.com/SBOrchidShow)

Orchid Magic



San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale

March 27-29, 2020

Scottish Rite Event Center
 Mission Valley, San Diego

Friday 3-7 p.m.
 Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

sdorchids.com/magic

Admission \$10
 Weekend Pass \$12
 Children under 12 Free
 Free Parking

POSTER BY CAROL KERR © 2019
 PORCELAIN POT BY VIVIAN SAUNDERS SIGNS.COM

CALENDAR

January 4, 2020

SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Breakfast 8:30 am, meeting 9:00 am
First Saturday of the month
[David Vandebroek,](#)
4davidv@gmail.com

January 7, 2020

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

January 7, 2020

SDCOS General Meeting &
Culture class
Culture Class: 6:30 pm
General Meeting: 7:30 pm
sdorchids.com

January 8, 2020

POS General Meeting
Conference Center
Lake San Marcos
palomarorchid.org

January 17, 2020

Orchid Odyssey
San Diego Zoo
sandiegozoo.org

January 15, 2020

SDCCS General Meeting
San Marcos Senior Center
111 Richmar Ave. San Marcos
www.sdscybidium.org

January 25-26, 2020

SDCOS Orchids in The Park Show and
Sale
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101
sdorchids.com

February 1, 2020

SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Breakfast 8:30 am, meeting 9:00 am
First Saturday of the month
[David Vandebroek,](#)
4davidv@gmail.com

February 4, 2020

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

February 4, 2020

SDCOS General Meeting &
Culture class
Culture Class: 6:30 pm
General Meeting: 7:30 pm
sdorchids.com

February 5, 2020

POS General Meeting
Conference Center
Lake San Marcos
palomarorchid.org

February 7-9, 2020

NHOS Orchid Expo & Sale 2020,
'Orchids on Parade',
Westminster Mall, Orange County,
CA

February 19, 2020

SDCCS General Meeting
San Marcos Senior Center
111 Richmar Ave. San Marcos
www.sdscybidium.org

February 21, 2020

Orchid Odyssey
San Diego Zoo
sandiegozoo.org

March 3, 2020

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

March 3, 2020

SDCOS General Meeting &
Culture class
Culture Class: 6:30 pm
General Meeting: 7:30 pm
sdorchids.com

March 4, 2020

POS General Meeting
Conference Center
Lake San Marcos
palomarorchid.org

March 7, 2020

SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Breakfast 8:30 am, meeting 9:00 am
First Saturday of the month
[David Vandebroek,](#)
4davidv@gmail.com

March 13-15, 2020

Santa Barbara International Orchid
Show
Earl Warren Show Grounds
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
sborchidshow.com

March 14, 2020

45th Annual Cymbidium Society of
America Congress
Earl Warren Show Grounds
Santa Barbara, Ca 93105
cymbidium.org

March 27-29, 2020

SDCOS Spring Show, 'Orchid Magic',
Scottish Rite Center, Mission Valley, SD,
CA
sdorchids.com

March 20, 2020

Ochid Odyssey
San Diego Zoo
sandiegozoo.org

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
sdorchids.com

Cymbidium Society

Regular meetings 3rd Wednesday
of each month, September-June, 7pm,
San Marcos Senior Center
111 Richmar Ave, San Marcos 92078
www.sdscybidium.org



**Vidya Sirsi and Alex Nadzan with
Member of the Year award**