



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

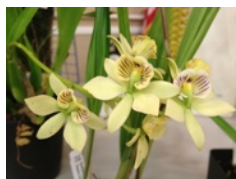
A Monthly Publication

January 2012

November Caravan

This year's last caravan was a visit to Don Rosentstock's home.

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Member of the Year

The results are in and Debra Funakoshi was selected as Member of the Year 2011. Debra has done many things for the society over the past years and this is a well deserved recognition of her efforts!

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Cymbidium Culture

Cymbidiums are prized for their long-lasting sprays of flowers, used especially as cut flowers or for corsages in the spring. They grow well outdoors in our coastal climate.

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Judging Report

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

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Holiday Party Snaps

Have a look at some of the pictures from the 2011 Holiday Party that was held at Chin's in San Marcos.

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Miscellaneous

This month's miscellanea features news from the botanical world of orchids and the discovery of two new unique species

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



Hybridizing and Selecting Cymbidiums for the Cut Flower Business

Barbara Rudvalis

Our speaker for January is Barbara Rudvalis, owner and operator of Rudvalis Orchids, Inc., located in Carlsbad, California, less than 30 miles north of the San Diego airport.

Barbara will speak about hybridizing for cut flowers, how she selects stock for this, the difference between this and what hobby and growers look for in their crosses. She will have actual flower examples instead of pictures and will supply plants for the POS opportunity table. This is a presentation not to be missed by anyone who has interest in Cymbidiums.

Rudvalis Orchids has been a major supplier of premium quality commercial cut Cymbidium flowers for over 40 years and potted flowering Cymbidium since the early nineties. Barbara's late husband, Joe, began the business in the early sixties when he began selecting and hybridizing his own varieties. Joe noticed a lack of

early blooming varieties and focused mainly in this area, creating the most stable, high quality and productive standard cut flower Cymbidiums on the market today. In the late seventies, Barbara began helping Joe breed mini's and intermediate Cymbidiums. Since Joe's passing, Barbara has continued with all aspects of the business.

Rudvalis Orchids offers a wide variety of novel Cymbidiums and ships standard,

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Cymbidium Wallacia

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hope you had a wonderful holiday season and a joyful New Year 2012! I would like to share with you in this new year, a thought or two which I've been saving in my "soapbox of the mind. First are the thank you's. I would like to thank Pat and Linda Rusnell for their hard work organizing the holiday party. We all appreciated "Santa" (Pat) and Linda for doing such a great job. Also, I'd like to thank Don Rosenstock for hosting a wonderful caravan. By the rave reviews, it was a very popular event that we should consider again in the future. And thanks to Debra Funakoshi, our Member of the Year 2011, for organizing the caravan. Also, congratulations to Sandi Sandquist for the first annual POS Orchid Digest Diamond Award for her efforts. Sandi will now take a well deserved rest to spent time with the growing family!

A while ago AOS Orchids magazine reported about the efforts made in the United Kingdom to designate places with great plants as part of the National Plant Collection. Essentially, anyone or any organization with a substantial collection of some genera of orchids is given the designation, with the idea of assembling UK national floral collective. I started thinking about this and the amazing collections that orchid society members have in their possession. Just alone within POS for instance, Renate Schmidt, Alex Nadzan, Merle Robboy, the Spencers, the commercial growers, even myself (and not to leave anyone out, all of our members in fact) have very interesting if not amazing plants representing almost all genera. The sum total of all member-owned and member-cultivated plants, therefore, represents a POS treasure and an orchid collective in its own right. Combine this with all the plants of all the societies in the US, and we have a national US orchid collection! With this in mind, I realized that aside from show-n-tell, we don't even really know the actual extent of each other's collections, and wouldn't it be great if we had a list of member plants? A grand undertaking but something to think about...

We welcome in January, 2012, our first speaker, Barbara Rudvalis. A long-time friend and supporter of orchid growing and POS, she owns a large cut flower cymbidium

nursery in Carlsbad which most of us have been to and are familiar with. She will be reviewing her cymbidium varieties and other tidbits of orchid growing. See you there!

Happy New Years' Growing!



Gil Ho
President, POS

November Caravan: Don Rosenstock's Home

Debra Funakoshi shares her impressions from a visit of Don Rosenstock's home on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

On November 19, twenty of us traveled to Don and Bonnie Rosenstock's home in Valley Center.

Upon our arrival, Don led us on a tour of the property. We walked thru the main garden, planted with tropicals. An interesting collection of statuary was on display here. We saw the Japanese garden, which afforded fantastic views of nearby mountains.

We enjoyed seeing his koi pond, which wrapped around the side of his house. There was another pond behind the house

Lastly, we saw his orchid collection. His large collection included numerous cattleya and dendrobium orchids, both hybrid and species, grown in his greenhouse. He has been around the world, and said he collected some of the orchids during his travels. We had the opportunity to buy plants, and most of us did.

Afterwards, members said how much they enjoyed the visit to Don and Bonnie's.

Many thanks go out to Don and Bonnie for inviting us to their home and for their hospitality.

Member of the Year Award

Our second vice president, photographer, and publicist, Debra Funakoshi, was voted 2011 Member of the Year. Her nominators stated that Debra handles the opportunity table and plant sales money efficiently. She has also found and organized some interesting caravans. As unofficial photographer she has chronicled our meetings. She has also been outstanding publicizing our events and meetings.

Congratulations to the other members who were nominated - Gil Ho, Alex Nadzan, Renate Schmidt, and Helge

continued on page 3



POS members on the garden tour at Don Rosenstock's home

Member of the Year Award cont. *Cymbidium* Culture

Weissig. Thank you to all the members who took the time to make a nomination and vote.



Gil Ho and our Member of the Year, Debra Funakoshi

The following is the *Cymbidium* web culture sheet available at www.aos.org.

Cymbidiums 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 many are 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 cymbidi-

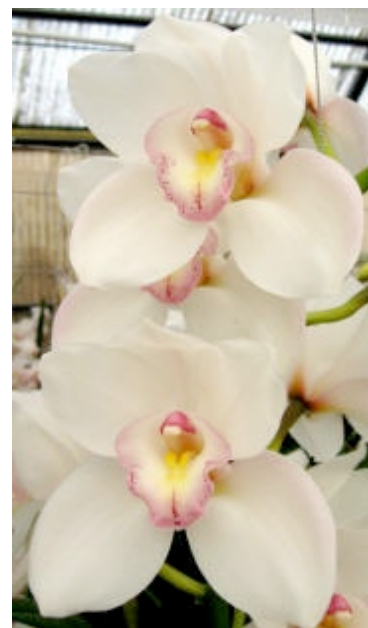
ums. During the summer, standard cymbidiums are usually grown outside in semi-shade, where day temperatures should be 75 to 85 F (or more), but night temperatures in the late summer to autumn (August to October) must be 50 to 60 F to initiate flower spikes. Optimum temperatures in winter are 45 to 55 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 semi-terrestrial plants. They generally produce all their vegetative growth during the spring and summer and need the most water during that period. Water heavily dur-

ing 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.

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.

Fertilizer 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.

ORCHID SHOW & SALE

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS

GALAXY OF ORCHIDS

MARCH 9-11, 2012

Friday 3pm-7pm, Saturday 9am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

Scottish Rite Center
1895 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108

Admission \$7
Weekend Pass \$10
Children under 12 Free
Parking Free

For additional
information:
sdorchids.com
760.529.2947

December Judging Report

There were 7 orchids presented for judging and 3 were awarded.



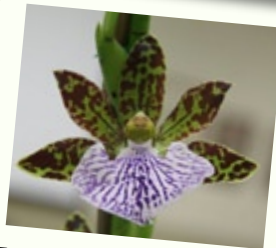
Fdk. Desert Tenor FCC/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded 90 points



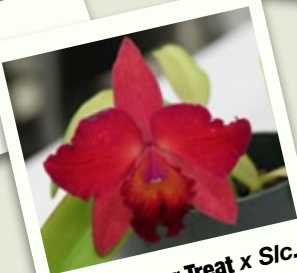
Zga. Oval 'Windflower' HCC/AOS
Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz
Awarded 79 points



Cld. Jumbo Freedom AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded 82 points



Zygo. Intuition 'Windflower'
Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz



(Lc. Trick or Treat x Slc. Circle of Life)
Exhibited by Arnie Gum



Den. Hibiki
Exhibited by Helen Pfister



Sophronitis reseau
Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz

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

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



Cymbidium Baltic Gem

Barbara Rudvalis *cont.*

intermediate and miniature sprays (on the stem) plus, six packs of top quality single cut flowers for corsage and exclusive arrangements. The ever changing availability of cut Cymbidium flowers can be found on Barbara's website at <http://www.rudvalisorchids.com> or by visiting her nursery by appointment only ((760) 438-2121).



Cymbidium Pinkie

plant photos taken from www.rudvalisorchids.com

Holiday Party Snaps



Pat Rusnell, Alex Nadzan, Linda Rusnell, and Estelle Hoffman



Sandi Sandquist with her Orchid Digest Diamond Award



Ron and Phyllis Prestia



One of many nice raffle orchids



Pat "Some like it hot" Rusnell



Photos by Debra Funakoshi - full album at www.palomarorchid.org

Meeting Wrap-up

The annual holiday dinner party was held on December 7 at Chin's in San Marcos. More than 40 members and their spouses were in attendance and shared good food and camaraderie.

Debra Funakoshi received the Member of the Year award and Sandi Sandquist was given the special Orchid Digest Diamond Award. Many thanks to the Rusnells for putting together a great event and to Renate Schmidt for pur-

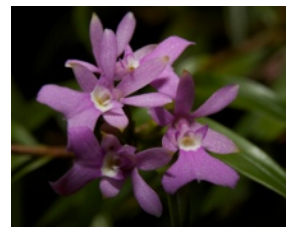
chasing the plants, which everyone in attendance received.

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 January 4, 2012.



Palomar Orchid Society

Membership Application/Renewal

2012



Last

First

Middle

Street

City

State

ZIP

Phone

E-Mail Address

You will receive our monthly newsletter and other information. We will not share your e-mail address with anyone!

☐ Individual Membership \$ 20.00

☐ Family Membership \$ 25.00

☐ General Fund \$

☐ Speaker Fund \$

☐ Name Badge (\$6.50 ea.) \$

☐ Other: \$

Please specify

Additional Family Member Names

Additional Family Member Names

\$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed

Make checks payable to **Palomar Orchid Society**

Bring completed form and check to a meeting or mail to:

Renee Daly
c/o Palomar Orchid Society
5210 Frost Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92010

Memberships are renewable annually. Dues are based on the calendar year January 1 through December 31 and are pro-rated on a quarterly basis for new members. When joining between October and December, please add the full dues for the following year.

Do not write in this section - Official Use ONLY

Amount enclosed _____

☐ Cash

☐ Check

Date received _____

- ☐ Orchid Fair
☐ Flower Fields
☐ Auction
☐ Referral
☒ Newsletter
☐ Other

Miscellaneous

Botanical News

In the last couple of months, two botanical news items from the orchid world have crossed our radar. Both relate to discoveries of unusual, previously unknown orchid species:

Bulbophyllum nocturnum was discovered by a group of dutch botanists on a remote island belonging to Papua New Guinea and is named after its night-only flowering pattern. It is the first known example

of an orchid species in which the flowers open only after dark and close before dawn. This species was determined to belong to the section *Epicriantes*, a group with generally poorly understood pollination biology. The authors published this new species along with a hypothesis about its pollinators in their article first made available online in October of 2011 in the Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society (Vol. 167, Issue 3, pages 344-350). Specifically, the authors draw attention to a similarity between the petal appendages of several *Bulbophyllum* species and the fruiting bodies of certain slime moulds. They speculate that *B. nocturnum* is pollinated by nocturnal insects, most likely small diptera (flies).

A tiny, as of yet unnamed orchid belonging to the *Platystele* genus was discovered by the American botanist Lou Joust. The plant was found among the roots of a much larger orchid in the Cero Candelaria Reserve in Ecuador. The flowers of this

orchid are so small that its petals are merely one single cell thick and appear to be translucent. This species is thought to be the smallest known orchid in the world.

Check out our website for links to additional articles and information about both unique orchid species.

Snacks & Refreshments

This month, all members with last names beginning with **H, I, J, K, L, M, and N** share at break time!

We appreciate everyone's effort in supporting our meeting with goodies. It makes for a great meeting all around!

Thank you!



Orchid Show and Sale
March 3rd and 4th
 Orchids-R-Easy Classes All Weekend

Sales: Sat & Sun 10-5
 Show: Sat 12-5 & Sun 10-5
 Location: Torrance Cultural Arts Center
 3330 Civic Center Dr., Torrance, CA

- Buy direct from commercial growers
- See award winning orchids
- All day demonstrations on orchid care and repotting

Admission: \$5 Adults
 Free Parking

For all show information and a map to the show and sale:
www.southbayorchidsociety.com
 Information: (310) 707-7097

Upcoming Events

January 3, 2012

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

January 4, 2012

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

January 7, 2012

SDCOS Species Group Mtg.
 Paul or Ann Tuskes
 (858) 274 5829

January 18, 2012

Orange County Orchid Society
 Annual Orchid Auction
 (909) 396 0172
dwarren@shipandshore.com

San Diego Cymbidium Society
 General Meeting
www.cymbidium.org/branch.html

January 20, 2012

Orchid Odyssey at the Zoo
events.sandiegozoo.org

January 21 & 22, 2012

SDCOS Winter Show in the Park
www.sdorchids.com

February 1, 2012

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

February 4, 2012

SDCOS Species Group Mtg.
 Paul or Ann Tuskes
 (858) 274 5829

February 7, 2012

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.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
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

The Editor's Corner



Remember that first week of December when you all had what looked like a great time at the Holiday dinner? That was the week I was out of the country on business. It was also the week when temperatures dropped dangerously close to and below freezing in some areas. Being 17 time zones away, I had the pleasure (?) of following the late night temperature drops live on the internet knowing there was not much that I could do to save my plants. Luckily and thankfully though, I have a very supportive wife and despite a self-proclaimed black thumb and a bad back, she schlepped many of my plants inside and prevented any frost damage. Some of us are lucky to share a similar level of enthusiasm for orchids with our partners like the Spencers or the Rusnells do, for example. However, I believe we all have reason to thank our spouses for their support of our hobby!

As always, your submissions, comments, and/or suggestions are very much welcome and I invite you to either track me down at the meetings or send them to newsletter@palomarorchid.org. The deadline for content submissions is the 15th of each month.

Happy New Year 2012!

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

Contact Us

Palomar Orchid Society
5210 Frost Ave
Carlsbad, CA 92008

POS News
newsletter@palomarorchid.org

Website
www.palomarorchid.org
www.facebook.com/palomarorchid

