

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

March 2017

#### **A Monthly Publication**



#### **Presidents' Message**

Alex and Bill review the upcoming two months and are looking for volunteers as well as feedback. Page 2

# Gems from the February Meeting

Andrew Cameron's talk on ploidy in orchids and plants in general was very well received. The Show-and-Tell had some really nice plants. Page 4

#### February Judging Report

Filed by Phyllis Prestia and Betty Kelepecz this month, the judging report includes the results from the January Show in the Park. Page 4

#### **Calendar of Events**

The Spring Show season gets into full swing this month with many open houses and orchid auctions and sales to come.

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## Monthly Meeting • Wednesday, March 7, 2018 • 6:30 pm



Thomas Mirenda

Herding Catts: A Beautiful Walk through a Difficult Phylogeny

We are happy to welcome back Thomas Mirenda of the Hawaii Tropical Botanic Garden. Tom's talk provides an overview of the most popular orchids, the cattleyas and their relatives. The cattleya alliance has recently undergone a very confusing and unpopular revision by taxonomists. Tom's talk will seek to clear up some of

the controversies on this interesting class of orchids.

Tom's visit is being co-hosted by POS and the SDCOS. Accordingly, he will speak on "The Big Island Orchid Scene!" on Tuesday, March 6 to SDCOS in Balboa Park. POS members are welcome to attend this talk as well. The plant table will be supplied by one of our local orchid vendors.



In September of 2017, Tom accepted an exciting new position as the Director of Horticulture, Education and Outreach at the Hawaii Tropical Botanic Garden on the Big Island of Hawaii. For the previous 17 years, Tom was the Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian Institution, caring for and curating an extremely diverse collection of orchid species and hybrids from all over the world. He was

active in developing and producing huge educational exhibits using the collection plants and visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Tom was trained originally as a Marine Biologist, but made the switch to plants and orchids in his late 20s while living in Hawaii. Since then he has worked with orchids at the NY Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and an extensive private collection at Greentree Estate in Long Island. Tom was also the floor manager at the New York International Orchid Show for many years during this period. For the last 13 years, Tom has contributed two columns each month for ORCHIDS magazine, the bulletin of the American Orchid Society, and he is devel-



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#### PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

As they say time flies. It seems we just celebrated Christmas and New Years, and we are approaching spring in a few days. In February, Andy Cameron gave us an informative talk on Genes and Chromosomes, one of our more technical talks of the year. In March, we welcome back Tom Mirenda of the Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden (see his speaker bio). Tom gave us an excellent and entertaining lecture the last time he visited POS and we are pleased to have him back again in a shared speaker arrangement with the San Diego County Orchid Society.



Alex and Tom are making arrangements for speakers to fill out the 2018 Calendar and we are excited to line up some returning speakers who we have enjoyed in the past. We are also planning an informative Culture Class geared towards many of our newer members, and some of our older members who may have forgotten some of the best cultural methods needed for a beautiful orchid collection.

Please consult the AOS website and the POS website for helpful hints on things you should be doing this time of the year. Even though we have beautiful weather nearly 12 months out of the year, we still need to adjust our practices to take into account the temperature differences, lighting changes, etc.

As we mentioned at the February meeting, we plan to have the balance of our 2018 meetings at the Lake San Marcos Conference Center. The facility was kind enough to lower its fee slightly and the cost is more in line with other comparable facilities in the area. Many of us feel the Conference Center is as good or better that the Pavilion for our meetings so the change is

positive. As a reminder, we will not have a May meeting, which allows us time to focus our energy on the Annual POS Auction on May 12 and typically we do not have a December meeting so we can have our annual holiday dinner.

Please take the time during March and April to identify plants that you would like to donate for our auction. As you divide your cymbidiums, cattleyas and other orchids, please set aside some nice divisions to support our society. Because of the higher facility expense, it is even more crucial that we have a successful, and profitable auction.

Alex and Bill encourage all of our members to actively participate in our meetings and in our other activities (Auction, Caravans, Orchid Show Displays, etc.). The more you get involved, the more you will get out of POS. Please don't be bashful as we welcome your involvement and ideas. Also, don't hesitate to ask your fellow members any questions you may have on topics such as sources of orchid supplies, how to handle pests and diseases, repotting, etc.

As always, we are open to your inputs, suggestions and constructive criticisms via email, in person, or by phone. Bill's contact information is billctwong@att.net (760-931-0502) and Alex's is anadzan@mac.com (760-529-5814). We are always open to your feedback, but unfortunately we seldom get feedback from the membership. So we are either a Best in Class Orchid Society that cannot improve, or you are not thinking hard enough to give us your feedback.

Best wishes for a successful growing season,

Alex Nadzan and Bill Wong Co-Presidents, POS



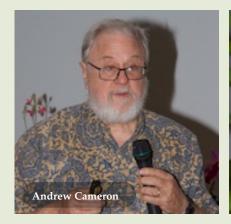
## Thomas Mirenda cont.

oping a new book based on those writings.

Tom travels frequently around the US and internationally, making presentations to diverse audiences, from scientists to the general public, about orchid ecology, pollination biology, and strategies for orchid conservation. He is passionate about seeking collaboration between the worlds of Botanic Gardens, the hobbyist community, commercial growers and scientists to work together toward the goal of protecting orchids and their habitats. Currently working on a project to coordinate and centralize North American orchid conservation efforts, Tom hopes to extend the influence to other parts of the world where orchids are imperiled.



# Gems From The February Meeting

















Photos by Helge Weissig – Full album at www.palomarorchid.org

## General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly meets the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month at the <u>Pavilion at Lake San Marcos</u> (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 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.

# February Judging Report

At the January Show in the Park, 2 orchids were awarded.



Paph. Hsinying Fairtron 'Tyrone' Exhibited by Charlie Fouquette Awarded AM/AOS 82 points



Rstp. mendozae 'Windflower' Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz Awarded AM/AOS, 81 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.

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

During the February Judging session, 2 orchids were awarded.



Dendrochilum bicallosum 'Windflower' Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz Awarded CCM/AOS 85 points

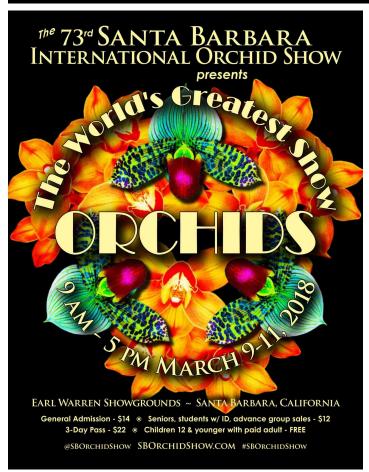


Slc. (Paradise Rose x Circle of Life) 'Arnie' Exhibited by Arnold Gum Awarded AM/AOS 80 points

Text and photo by Phyllis Prestia and Betty Kelpecz









The Palomar Orchid Society Presents: 2018 Orchid Sale And Auction May 12, 2018 9:00AM to 2:30PM

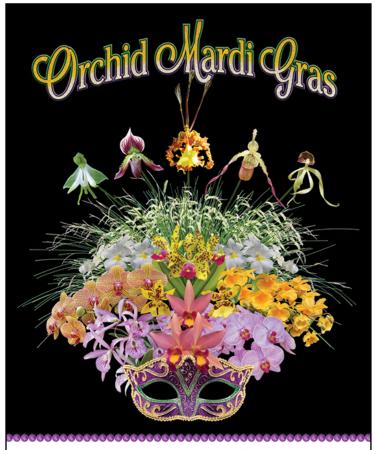
> Sale and Preview 9AM to 10AM Auction 10AM to 2:30PM



NEW LOCATION

SHADOWRIDGE GOLF CLUB 1980 GATEWAY DRIVE VISTA CA 92081

For more info: www.palomarorchid.org



### San Diego County Orchid Society Show and Sale • March 23-25, 2018

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. Information sdorchids.com Scottish Rite Event Center 1895 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108 Free Parking

Admission \$10 Weekend Pass \$12 Children under 12 Free Contact 619-543-9078



### 2017 POS Officers

Alex Nadzan & Bill Wong — Co-President Tom Wisniewski &

Alex Nadzan — Co-1st Vice President/Programs

Jerry Spahn — 2nd Vice President/Raffle

Wendy Daneau — 3rd Vice President/Membership

Frank Vogel — Secretary Vidya Sirsi — Treasurer Suzie Sandore, Cher Whelan,

Carl Wood — 2nd Year Trustees

Maryanne Kind, Sandi Sandquist,

Helge Weissig — 1st Year Trustees

Jim Anderson — Publicity Susan Johnston & Ivan Allen — Newsletter Editors Helge Weissig — Website Editor Debra Funakoshi — FaceBook Editor

## Contact Us

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**Email** 

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www.palomarorchid.org www.facebook.com/palomarorchid www.flickr.com/groups/palomarorchid/

## **Upcoming Events**

#### March 6, 2018

Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com

#### March 7, 2018

POS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos palomarorchid.org

#### March 7 - 11, 2018

2018 Spring Members Meeting American Orchid Society Santa Barbara, CA aosmembersmeeting.com

#### March 9 - 11, 2018

73rd Annual Santa Barbara International Orchid Show Santa Barbara, CA sborchidshow.com

Open House, Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Santa Barbara, CA sborchid.com

Open House, Cal-Orchid Santa Barbara, CA calorchid.com

Open House, Westerlay Orchids Carpenteria, CA westerlayorchids.com

Open House, Gallup & Stripling Orchids, Carpenteria, CA gallup-stribling.com

#### March 12, 2018

Annual Orchid Auction Long Beach Amateur Orchid Society, Long Beach, CA lbaos.com

### March 16, 2018

Orchid Odvssev San Diego Zoo sandiegozoo.org

#### March 21, 2018

SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

#### March 24 - 26, 2018

Annual SDCOS Spring Show and Orchid Sale Scottish Rite Event Center sdorchids.com

#### April 3, 2018

Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com

#### April 4, 2018

POS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos palomarorchid.org

#### April 13 & 14, 2018

Open House Andy's Orchids Encinitas, CA andysorchids.com

#### April 18, 2018

SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

#### April 20, 2018

Orchid Odyssey San Diego Zoo sandiegozoo.org

**Annual Orchid Auction** Southbay Orchid Society Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA southbayorchidsociety.com

#### May 1, 2018

Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting sdorchids.com

#### May 12, 2018

Palomar Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction and Plant Sale Shadow Ridge Golf Club San Marcos palomarorchid.org

#### May 16, 2018

SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

## May 18, 2018

Orchid 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 Bob Clark (858) 270-8352 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

