



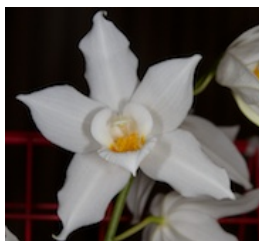
# POS News

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

March 2014



### Gems from the Last Meeting

Sandra Tillisch Svoboda, the president of the American Orchid Society, presented on Paphiopedilum species from Vietnam.

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### Orchid Judging Results

There were three award winning plants at last month's judging sessions at the SDCOS meeting and at the SDCOS winter show.

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### Catasetum Culture

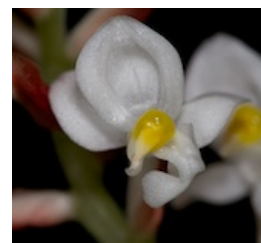
Catasetum is a beautiful yet challenging to grow genus. Our resident expert grower Fred Clarke will speak to us on these plants this month.

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### Calendar of Events

The winter show season is now in full swing! Upcoming events are listed, as always, on the last page.

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March Meeting • Wednesday, March 6, 2014 • 6:30 pm



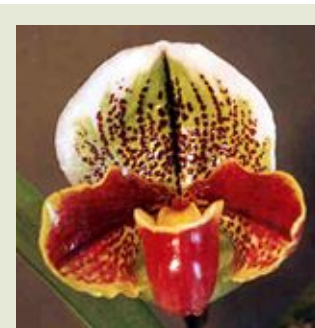
## Fred Clarke

### Growing Catasetums

We are fortunate to have Fred Clarke as our speaker for March. Fred is a long time, generous supporter of the Palomar Orchid Society and one of our most favorite speakers. Fred will be talking on "Growing Catasetums". His presentation will describe catasetum species and hybrids and share with us tips on how to grow this very interesting class of decidu-

ous orchids. Fred's talk is not to be missed, as he is an excellent speaker who has lectured on many orchid subjects in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Latin and South America. Fred is also providing the plant table, which will likely include some of his new catasetums hybrids as well as novel cattleyas hybrids.

As many of you know, Fred is a passionate orchid grower and hybridizer whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Accordingly, Fred has created many new



**Paph. (Hellas 'Westonbirt'**  
**FCC/RHS x Duncan York**  
**'Shouthard' AM/AOS)**



**Ctsm. Frlilly Doris 'SVO'**  
**AM/AOS**

hybrids across several orchid classes. Although developing new cattleya hybrids has been a long-standing, primary interest of Fred, he also has produced new Aussie dendrobium, bulbophyllum, paphiopedilum, sarcochillus and zygopetalum hybrids. Moreover, his pioneering work in catasetum intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several unique hybrids, including the grex, Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced "the closest flower color to black ever witnessed". To date, this grex has received eight FCCs and six AMs.

continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*It looks like this winter will turn out to be one of the mildest and driest in recent history, which is both good from the orchid grower's standpoint but bad in the long term as water reservoirs are at an all time low and water rationing may be upon us in the summer when we most need it. As of this writing there may be some hope for rain in early March, but it may not be enough to sustain us over the rest of the year. Let's hope for the best.*

*As I mentioned at our last meeting, we are not planning to continue to publish full monthly to do lists, but rather refer members to our website links for last year's tips as the vast majority of them will remain valid from last year. When appropriate, we will provide updates to the existing lists as conditions require or new suggestions arise.*

*March is a very active time for orchid enthusiasts with the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show occurring on March 14-16, and*

*our own San Diego County Orchid Society's Annual Show on March 21-23. Concurrent with the Santa Barbara show will be the annual [Cymbidium Congress](#) to be held on Saturday, March 15 for those of you who are true cymbidium enthusiasts.*

*Several members signed up for putting together a POS display at the San Diego Show, but we could use a few more participants to make it easier on all of us, particularly with respect to providing plants for the display. We also will need additional participants for our annual auction on May 17. Helge Weissig has graciously volunteered to chair the event and he will be soliciting more volunteers at the March meeting. I continue to encourage all members to participate in some way to support our only fund raising event of the year. It is important for our society as it funds all of our speakers, opportunity tables and related activities throughout the year.*

*Our speaker for March is Fred Clarke, who is no stranger to our society. As most of you know from past meetings, Fred is an excellent speaker and he will be talking about one of his favorite topics 'Growing Catasetums'. Since many of us took advantage of Fred's generosity in donating some of his best Fredclarkara After Dark 'SVO' to the society, it will be advantageous to attend his talk in order to find out how best to grow and rebloom these lovely deciduous orchids. Fred also will be providing the plant table, which should give attendees an opportunity to obtain some of his novel cattleya and catasetum hybrids.*

*In closing, I encourage input from our members at any time via email*



*([anadzan@mac.com](mailto:anadzan@mac.com)), phone (760-753-6280) or in person. Feel free to contact me, as the board and I are here to serve you.*

*Happy Growing,*

*Alex Nadzan  
President, POS  
(760) 753-6280  
[anadzan@mac.com](mailto:anadzan@mac.com)*

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

## A SYMPHONY OF ORCHIDS 2014 Show and Sale

**MARCH 21-23, 2014**  
Friday 3pm-7pm Saturday 9am-6pm Sunday 10am-4pm

<p><b>Scottish Rite Center</b> 1895 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108</p>	<p><b>Admission: \$7</b> <b>Weekend Pass: \$10</b> <b>Children under 12: Free</b> <b>Free Parking</b></p>	<p><b>Information:</b> <a href="http://www.sdorchids.com">www.sdorchids.com</a> <b>Contact:</b> (760) 529-2947</p>
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## Orchid To Do Lists

*Our monthly To Do lists feature detailed instructions, recommendations, and links to orchid resources suitable for the Southern California orchid growing climate.*

*A full collection of the lists is now available [online in a special section of the Palomar Orchid Society's website](#). We are continuing to update and amend these as appropriate and they are prominently linked from the front page.*

*The newsletter will no longer carry the full text but will have a link to the current month's list. Occasionally, we will print instructions adapted to the current weather and growing conditions. This month's list is available [here](#).*

# Gems From The Last Meeting



**Sandra Tillisch Svoboda**



**Alex Nadzan**



**C. Katherine Clarkson - Anita Spencer**



**L. bancalarii  
Merle Robboy**



**Cym. Dame Catherine 'Spring Day' - Bill Wong**



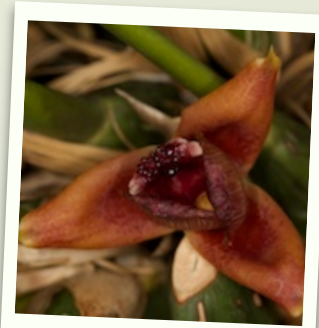
**Lyc. Memoria Momomi Motohar  
Phyllis Prestia**



**Onc. Twinkle Snow  
Helge Weissig**



**Paph. Maiden x Paph.  
Miracle Victory  
Merle Robboy**



**Maxillaria desvauxiana  
Merle Robboy**



**Cym. Splatters 'Red Velvet'  
Alex Nadzan**

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).

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.

## January Judging Report

There were 6 orchids presented for judging. One was awarded.



**Lc. Mini Song 'Donald Halliday'**  
**Exhibited by Debbie Halliday**  
**Awarded AM/AOS 81 points**

In addition, at the January 26th judging during the Winter Show in the Park, two orchids were awarded.



**C. Blue Star 'Feuerback'**  
**Exhibited by Renate Schmidt**  
**Awarded HCC/AOS 77 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



**Lc. Purple Plume 'Rainbow Valley'**  
**Exhibited by Anita and Jerry Spencer**  
**Awarded CCM/AOS 85 points**

*Text and photo by Phyllis S. Prestia Ed.D.*

## Fred Clarke *cont.*

Fred has been growing orchids for 35 years and has been hybridizing for 27 of those years. With over 27 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery, Sunset Valley Orchids, located in Vista, California, just north of San Diego. [His nursery's website](#) has considerable information, plants for sale and many beautiful pics of his award winning orchids.

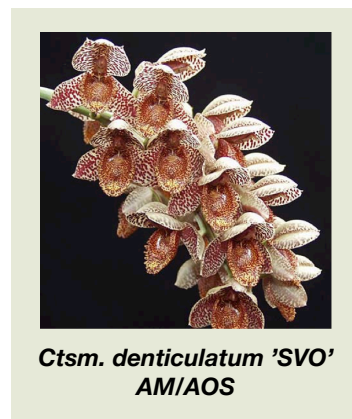
Fred is an accredited judge in the Pacific South Region and an AOS trustee. His



**Ctsm. expansum**

plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society. Some of you may not know it, but Fred also is the manager of the Flower

Fields in Carlsbad and a passionate fisherman.



**Ctsm. denticulatum 'SVO'**  
**AM/AOS**

## Catasetum

### kat-ah-SEE-tum

This unusual group of orchids offers fascinating, waxy flowers that often have the peculiar habit of discharging their pollen masses (pollinia) onto pollinators. Almost always deciduous, the pseudobulbous plants have strict growing and resting periods. Most flower before entering a dormant period when they drop their leaves.

**Light** should be strong, especially near the end of the growth period. Early in the annual growth cycle, plants will tolerate less light, from 1,500 to 3,000 foot-candles. Plants grow best with light levels of 3,000 to 6,000 foot-candles, or one-half to three-fourths full sun. As pseudobulbs mature, harden them by giving slightly more light.



**Temperatures** reflect the fact these orchids are native to hot tropical areas and grow during the rainy summer months. During this growing period, day temperatures of 80° to 100° F and night temperatures of 60° to 65° F are beneficial. After growths mature, temperatures can be reduced to 55° F at night, with day temperatures of 70° to 85° F.

**Water** is a critical factor for the production of large pseudobulbs that result in best flowering. A great quantity of water must be stored by the plant in a relatively short growing season. Water heavily as new leaves are forming. As the pseudobulb matures, gradually reduce watering frequency. Leaves will yellow and drop. At this time, watering should be stopped completely until new growth

begins. Water during this dormant period only if the pseudobulbs shrivel severely.

**Humidity** should be 40 to 60 percent. This can be provided in the home by placing the plants on trays of gravel, only partially filled with water so that the plants do not sit in the water. Air should always be moving around the plants to prevent fungal or bacterial disease, especially if high humidity or cool temperatures exist. In the greenhouse, the humidity is best increased by use of a humidifier. Evaporative cooling increases humidity while cooling the air.

**Fertilize** and water regularly to produce strong pseudobulbs. Use a high-nitrogen formulation (such as 30-10-10) while plants are in active growth, slowly tapering off as pseudobulbs form. A blossom-booster formulation (such as 10-30-20) should be used in the autumn, except for plants that normally bloom in the spring. Frequent applications of a dilute concentration of fertilizer are more effective than occasional applications of strong concentrations.

**Potting** should be timed to coincide with the initiation of new growth, usually in the spring. New roots will be produced quickly at that time, and plants will experience minimal setback. These plants have vigorous root systems and require a rich, moist potting medium during the growing season. Many growers bare-root their plants during the resting period to ensure dryness at that time. Fine-grade media are common for smaller pots; medium-grade media are used only in larger pots. Sphagnum moss is used successfully for plants in many areas, as it provides tremendous water- and fertilizer-holding capacities. Some plants

potting demos   exotic displays   flower arrangements

art show & sale

69<sup>th</sup> Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

orchids for sale

March 14-16, 2014  
9 AM to 5 PM

Earl Warren Showgrounds  
Highway 101 & Las Positas Rd

Complements and Contrasts

General Admission: \$12  
Seniors/Students w/ID: \$10  
Children 12 & under w/Adult: Free  
3-Day Pass: \$20 / \$17

www.SBORchidShow.com

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization

can be grown on slabs of tree fern or other material, which makes it easier to keep them dry during dormancy; however, it is harder to keep them moist while growing. When well grown, these orchids can be divided down to one mature pseudobulb and will then flower on the next mature growth. Spider mites are a common pest of these orchids when in leaf. Control spider mites by keeping humidity high or spraying with recommended miticides.

*This culture sheet is copyright by the American Orchid Society and can be accessed online [here](#).*



## The Editor's Corner



Have you liked us on Facebook yet? Our page is linked to on the right and features updates on what is going on in our local orchid world, shares from other societies, events you can share with your own group of family and friends (like, say, the upcoming orchid auction, hint, hint), and orchid pictures and trivia. It's a great way to keep in touch with POS!

While on the subject: a shout-out to Debra Funakoshi, who has agreed to take on some of the facebooking for the society. While yours truly has been trying to keep the posts to more than sporadic (yet not so frequent that anyone should ever get tired of them), truth be told, the newsletter takes up a lot of time and it will be great to have Debra help with the social networking. Thank you Debra!

One quick erratum: the dates for our monthly meetings in March and April were listed incorrectly in the last newsletter. They are corrected below. Thanks to Carl Wood for pointing out the copy-pasta mistake. Also, don't forget, there is no regular meeting in May in lieu of the training session for all the auction volunteers. Look for more information in next month's newsletter.

As always, your contributions to the newsletter or website are very welcome. Please email them to [newsletter@palomarorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@palomarorchid.org).

Happy Growing!

## POS Officers

**Alex Nadzan — President**  
**Renate Schmidt — 1st Vice President/Programs**  
**Terri Lofthouse**  
 & **Donna Steinbrenner — 2nd Vice President/Raffle**  
**Sandi Sanquist**  
 & **Cher Whelan — 3rd Vice President/Membership**  
**Anne Gold — Secretary**  
**Vidya Sirsi — Treasurer**  
**Carl Lofthouse, Elf Mitton, & Lena Shiroma — 2nd Year Trustees**  
**Lisa Humphreys, James Mickelson,**  
 & **Merle Robboy — 1st Year Trustees**  
**Maryanne Kind & Allie Tran — Publicity**  
**Helge Weissig — Newsletter & Website Editor**

## Contact Us

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**Carlsbad CA 92013**

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**WWW**  
[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

**March 4, 2014**  
 Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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

**March 5, 2014**  
 POS General Meeting  
 Fred Clarke  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

**March 14-16, 2014**  
 69th Santa Barbara International  
 Orchid Show  
 Santa Barbara  
[www.sborchidshow.com](http://www.sborchidshow.com)

**March 15, 2014**  
 Cymbidium Congress  
 Santa Barbara  
[www.cymbidium.org](http://www.cymbidium.org)

**March 19, 2014**  
 SDCCS General Meeting

**March 21-23, 2014**  
 A Symphony of Orchids  
 SDCOS 2014 Show and Sale  
 Scottish Rite Center, San Diego  
[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

**April 1, 2014**  
 Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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

**April 2, 2014**  
 POS General Meeting  
 Culture Class Panel of Growers  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

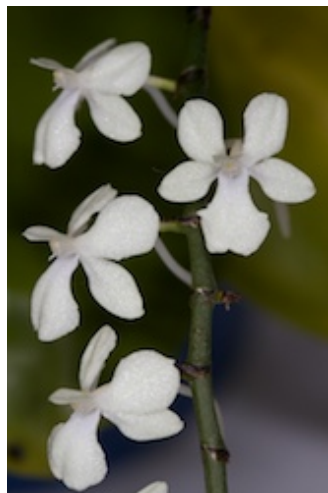
**April 17, 2014**  
 SDCCS General Meeting

**May 6, 2014**  
 Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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

**May 7, 2014**  
 POS Auction Volunteer Training  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

**May 17, 2014**  
 POS Annual Auction  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.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](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)