



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

March 2015



Phalaenopsis Culture Sheet

All about the culture of this popular "beginner" orchid, courtesy of the culture sheet collection of the American Orchid Society.
Page 2

Gems from the Last Meeting

Ron Parsons gave a very entertaining and educational presentation on his visit to Columbia.
Page 3

Winter Show Judging

Phyllis Prestia filed a report of the orchid judging at the SDCOS winter show in Balboa Park.
Page 4

Calendar of Events

Mark your calendars for the months of March, April, and early May, the latter featuring the POS Auction!
Page 6



March Meeting • Wednesday, March 4, 2015 • 6:30 pm



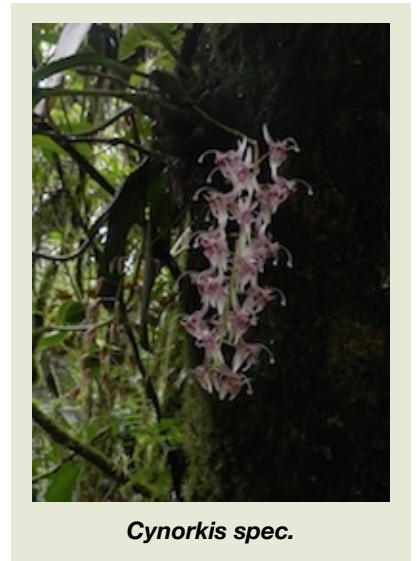
Peter Tobias

Traveling in Brazil with the Orchid Conservation Alliance

The Palomar Orchid Society is pleased to welcome Peter Tobias as our guest speaker this month. He will be giving a talk on "Traveling in Brazil with the Orchid Conservation Alliance". Peter is a member of the SDCOS and also President

of the [Orchid Conservation Alliance \(OCA\)](#), which he co-founded in 2006 with some of his friends. In the past, Peter has served as the chairman of the San Diego County Orchid Society's Conservation Committee. Peter will first present an overview of OCA, followed by a discussion of the trip taken in Spring 2014 with OCA to the Atlantic Rainforest and the Chapada Diamantina National Park in Brazil to see orchids growing in the wild.

Peter began growing orchids as a hobby in Chicago during the early 1970s with a white phalaenopsis orchid. After moving to Encinitas in 1980, his hobby really



Cynorkis spec.

"bloomed." His collection of primarily species orchids is mostly grown outdoors.

Peter is visiting investigator and associate professor of immunology and microbial science at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla. He is a member of the San Diego County Orchid Society and a founding member of the the society's Conservation Committee in 1991.



Cattleya elongata

continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have experienced another very mild winter which will likely result in early emergence of spring growth of our orchids so members should begin preparing for repotting season by stocking up on bark, perlite and pots in anticipation of new root growth that signals time for repotting susceptible plants. In addition hobbyists should be on the look out for the onset of a variety of pests including aphids, scale and thrips. The latter pest is a very insidious one which is difficult to detect and even more challenge to eradicate. Thrips can infect a collection and reproduce very rapidly, particularly in a greenhouse environment, as I have observed in the case of my own plants. For those of you who are interested in learning more about thrips and how they damage orchid buds and flowers, Terry Bottom of the St. Augustine Orchid Society published [an excellent introduction to this orchid pest](#).

This month is a very active time for orchid shows starting with the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show on March 13-15, and our own San Diego County Orchid Society's Annual Show on March 27-29. Concurrent with the Santa Barbara show will be the [annual Cymbidium Congress](#) to be held on Saturday, March 14 for those of you who are true cymbidium enthusiasts or want to learn more about them. This congress is not restricted to cymbidiums but also will feature some lectures by experts on paphs and phrags.

At our last meeting we had members sign up for putting together a POS display at the San Diego Show, but we can always use a few more participants to make it easier on all of the participants. Fortunately, Cher Whelan and Maryanne Kind have taken the lead on coming up with some great ideas that should translate to a very nice, possibly award winning display this year.

We also will need more participants for our annual auction on May 2 including a volunteer to chair the event so we will be soliciting member involvement 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.

This month's speaker is Peter Tobias an avid orchid enthusiast and conservationist. He will be speaking on his recent orchid conservation trip to Brazil. It should be a very informative and interesting talk. To my knowledge, this is Peter's debut as a speaker for POS.

In closing, I always encourage input from our members at any time via email (anadzan@mac.com), phone (760-529-5814) or in person. Feel free to contact me, as the board and I are here to serve you.

Happy Growing,



Alex Nadzan
President, POS

Phalaenopsis for Beginners

The following is the Phalaenopsis culture sheet available at www.aos.org.

If you are lucky enough to have a Phalaenopsis, you are about to enter the wonderful world of growing orchids! Phals are one of the easiest orchids to grow in the home. If

you follow a few basic requirements, these plants will reward you with several months of beautiful blooms.

Water

How often you water will depend on the potting medium. Bark retains less water than moss. If your phal is potted in bark watering once a week is generally sufficient. If your plant is potted in moss, water when the top feels dry. The amount of light and heat your plant receives will also affect how soon your phal needs watering. Summer months will need more frequent watering, winter will need less. After a few waterings, you will be able to tell by the weight of the pot whether or not it is time to water again. If in doubt, wait a day.

It is best to water in the morning. Place the plant in the sink and use tepid water. Do not use salt-softened or distilled water. Let the water run through the plant for a minute or so. Be sure to let the plant drain completely.

If any water remains in the crown (where the leaves join in the center) use a paper towel to blot the water to avoid crown rot.

Light

Phalaenopsis are 'low' light orchids. They grow beautifully in an east window and can be grown in a south or west window if protected by a sheer curtain. A phal's leaves should be olive green. If they are darker it means the plant is not getting enough light; red tinged leaves mean the plant is getting too much light. Once the plant is in bloom you can place it anywhere in your home out of direct sunlight. If your plant does not re-bloom, increase the amount of light that it receives.

Continue watering and fertilizing while waiting for the blooming cycle to begin!

Temperature

Phals are easy to grow because they enjoy the same temperatures we do – above 60° F at night and a range of 70° F to 80° F or higher during the day. 95° F

continued on page 4

Snacks & Refreshments

This month, all members with last names beginning **D** through **L** 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!

Gems From The Last Meeting



Ron Parsons



**Bark. Maran Metton x
Bark. dorothea 'Dark'
Alex Nadzan**



**Rdm. Starlet 'Billy B' x
Toi. Bob Dugger 'Sun-
dance' – Nico Goosens**



Charlie Padelford & Nico Goosens



**B/c. Izumi Charm 'Bright Yellow'
Bill Wong**



Comparettia speciosa – Alan Castillo



**Coelogyne mooreana
'Westonbirt' FCC
Alex Nadzan**

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 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.

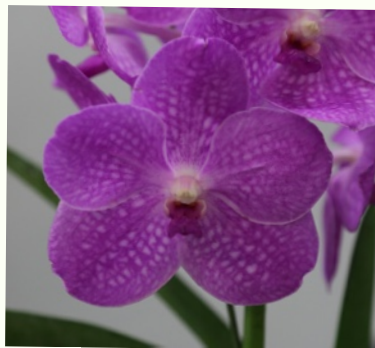
Inside the resort at the first "T" intersection, turn left on San Marino Drive. At the next 4-way STOP, turn right on La Bonita Drive. Proceed ahead for one block on La Bonita. The pavilion will be on the left and there is parking in front of the pavilion.

Winter Show Judging Report

There were 8 orchids presented for judging at the Winter Show in January. Two were awarded.



Phrag. Jason Fischer 'Windflower'
Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz
Awarded HCC/AOS 77 points



Vanda Sansri Pink Diamond 'Feuerbach'
Exhibited by Renate Schmidt
Awarded HCC/AOS 75 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

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

Peter Tobias continued

The success of the local conservation group led to the idea that orchid lovers anywhere might support an organization devoted to orchid habitat protection, and OCA was founded. OCA is a non-profit corporation with the principal goal of fostering the development of wild orchid reserves and to promote the conservation of orchids and orchid habitat around the world. So far, 319 individuals and 27 orchid societies have joined this alliance which supports a number of projects in Ecuador and other South American areas.



Phalaenopsis continued

is the maximum temperature recommendation. Keep in mind that temperatures close to the window on a windowsill will be colder or hotter than your general house temperature. Fluctuating temperatures can cause bud drop on plants with buds ready to open.

Fertilizer

Any balanced orchid fertilizer (look at the numbers on the container, 20-20-20, etc.) can be used to fertilize your orchid. Feeding weakly (half strength) weekly works well. Once a month, use clear water to flush any accumulated salts from the potting mix.

Humidity

Use a shallow tray of pebbles filled with water to increase humidity around your plants. Be sure the pot does not sit in water as this will rot the roots.

Cutting the spike

When the blooms are finished, you can cut the spike down

to the level of the leaves and the plant will bloom with larger flowers and a strong stem within a year. You can also cut off the stem leaving two nodes (those little brown lines on the stem below where the flowers were) on the stem. One of these nodes will then initiate and generally produce flowers within eight to 12 weeks. See the video on the AOS website: [Where to Cut a Phalaenopsis Spike](#)

Continue watering and fertilizing while you are waiting for the blooming cycle to begin again! Repotting is usually done every one to three years.



LBAOS Annual Orchid Auction

Monday, March 9, 2015

6:00pm - Preview & Registration (Get your Paddles!)
 6:30pm - Auction Begins

Join us at our Annual Orchid Auction! Bid on quality indoor and outdoor growing orchids, plants and supplies from commercial growers and society members at auction prices. Start or expand your orchid selection. Obtain a gift for someone. Don't miss this opportunity!

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall
 6201 E. Willow Strossinget, Long Beach, CA

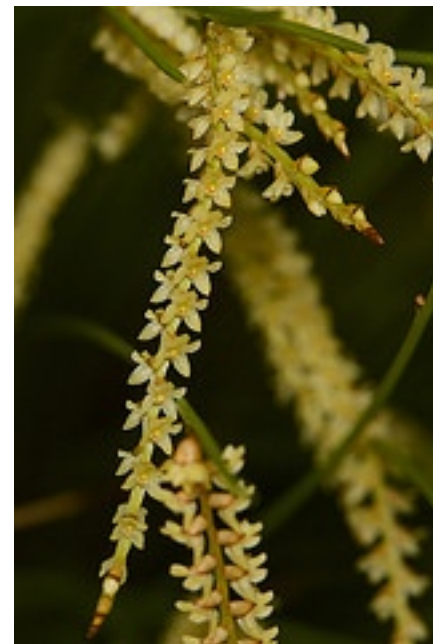
(Between Palo Verde Ave. and Woodruff Ave.)

Contact Info:

LBAOS website: www.lbaos.com

Email: info@lbaos.com

Phone: Gary Putnam, (562) 972-0450 or
 Irma Hughes, (714) 897-2892



SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

70th

AOS Judging MARCH 12, 2015
 Cymbidium Congress
 MARCH 14, 2015

**CELEBRATE
 WITH ORCHIDS!
 MARCH 13-15, 2015**

SBORCHIDSHOW.COM
 #SBORCHIDSHOW | #SBORCHIDSHOW

Earl Warren Showgrounds
 Santa Barbara
 California

3-Day Pass \$20
 General Admission \$12
 Seniors | Students \$10
 Show AOS Judging Participants: Free

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY AROUND THE WORLD WITH ORCHIDS 2015 Show and Sale



MARCH 27-29, 2015
 Friday 3pm-7pm Saturday 9am-6pm Sunday 10am-4pm

Scottish Rite Events Center Admission: \$8 Information:
 1895 Camino Del Rio South Weekend Pass: \$10 www.sdorchids.com
 San Diego, CA 92108 Children under 12: Free Contact:
 Free Parking (760) 529-2947

The Editor's Corner



You may have noticed that the POS Auction has popped up already on the calendar below (May 2, 2015). This event is typically the biggest fundraising opportunity for our society as well as a wonderful opportunity to expand your collection with very reasonably priced (often downright cheap), yet very good quality plants. Alas, the auction has the annoying habit of not organizing itself and we are still looking for folks to volunteer for the event. Responsibilities range from plant runner to recorder and cashier. We also will need help for setup the

day before.

As Alex mentioned in his message, we are also looking for volunteers for the San Diego County Orchid Society's Spring Show display (March 27 - 29, 2015). Set-up (on March 26 in the afternoon) and break-down help as well as loaner plants would be greatly appreciated.

As always, your contributions to the newsletter or website are very welcome. Please email them to newsletter@palomarorchid.org.

Happy Growing!

POS Officers

Alex Nadzan — President
Debra Funakoshi — 1st Vice President/Programs
Marita Hoyt & Jerry Spahn — 2nd Vice President/Raffle
Sandi Sanquist — 3rd Vice President/Membership
Anne Gold — Secretary
Vidya Sirsi — Treasurer
Lisa Humphreys, Charles Padelford, & Merle Robboy — 2nd Year Trustees
Lena Shiroma, Tom Wisniewski, & Carl Wood — 1st Year Trustees
Maryanne Kind & Ivan Allen — Publicity
Helge Weissig — Newsletter & Website Editor

Contact Us

Palomar Orchid Society
PO Box 130774
Carlsbad CA 92013

Email
newsletter@palomarorchid.org

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

Upcoming Events

March 3, 2015

Orchid Judging Center
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

March 4, 2015

POS General Meeting
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos
www.palomarorchid.org

March 9, 2015

Long Beach Amateur Orchid Soc.
 Annual Orchid Auction
www.lbaos.com

March 13 - 15, 2015

70th Annual Santa Barbara International Orchid Show
www.sborchidshow.com

Cal-Orchid Open House
www.calorchid.com

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate
 Open House
www.sborchid.com

March 18, 2015

SDCCS General Meeting
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

March 20, 2015

Orchid Odyssey
 San Diego Zoo
www.sandiegozoo.org

March 27 - 29, 2015

SDCOS 2015 Show And Sale
www.sdorchids.com

Andy's Orchids Annual Spring
 Open House
www.andysorchids.com

April 1, 2015

POS General Meeting
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos
www.palomarorchid.org

April 7, 2015

Orchid Judging Center
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

April 15, 2015

SDCCS General Meeting
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

April 17, 2015

Orchid Odyssey
 San Diego Zoo
www.sandiegozoo.org

May 2, 2015

POS Annual Auction
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos
www.palomarorchid.org

May 5, 2015

Orchid Judging Center
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

May 6, 2015

POS General Meeting
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos
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

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

