



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 2013

President Message

This month's message includes the results on the meeting relocation vote, an introduction to the occasional grower's panel, and more.

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March To Do List

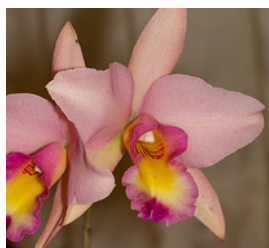
The second installment of our new feature, a monthly To Do list tailored for growing orchids in Southern California

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Gems from the Last Meeting

Peter Lin gave an educational and entertaining presentation on *Neofinetia falcata* and its hybrids.

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Calendar of Events

The spring sale and show season is in full swing. Check our calendar for upcoming events in the area

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Monthly Orchid Judging Results

There were 8 orchids presented for judging in February. 5 were awarded, including one FCC!

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March Meeting • Wednesday, March 6, 2013 • 6:30 pm

Panel of POS Orchid Experts

Everything You Need to Know About Basic Orchid Culture and More

Our March speaker program is an exciting opportunity for both new and long-term POS members to learn about or become reacquainted with the fundamentals of orchid culture presented by our own panel of advanced POS hobbyists. The program should help prepare orchid growers for the upcoming Spring/



A variety of different potting media and mixes can be used to successfully grow orchids.

Summer growing seasons. This program is in response to suggestions that our society provide more basic orchid cultural information to the membership. The expert panel consists of Renate Schmidt, Jerry Spencer, Merle Robboy and Alex Nadzan, who collectively have over 100 years experience in growing a variety of orchid genera. Each panelist will review specific aspects of orchid culture as highlighted below, then address questions members and guests may have on any topic of orchid culture. Members are encouraged to submit questions in advance if they like (to anandzan@mac.com) or just raise them at the meeting. Participants also welcome to bring in their problem plants for diagnosis; however, please bring plants in either paper or plastic

bags if they appear to be infected with a disease in order to minimize transmission to other plants. This is a very timely program that will aid members in producing healthy, vigorous plants and reward their



Monopodial orchid include members of the Phalaenopsis (shown), Paphiopedilum and Vanda alliances.



Sympodial orchids include members of the Cattleya (Lc. Love Knot shown), Oncidium, Dendrobium and Cymbidium alliances.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope all of you have managed to keep your outdoor orchids safe from the unusually cold winter we have experienced over the last few months. I know some of my plants were not happy and they rebelled by losing some of their older leaves and very young bulbs as well as allowing their newly developed buds to wilt. Hopefully, the situation will improve as March progresses with more normal highs and lows that encourage our plants to come out of their winter rest period.

Feedback from our survey on relocation of our meetings to the Lake San Marcos facility was overwhelmingly in favor of the move with 85% of respondents voting affirmatively. Accordingly, Maryanne Kind is making arrangements to relocate our meetings to LSM beginning with the July 3rd meeting. Some modifications will need to be made to accommodate the new site such as providing pre-made coffee, soft drinks and bringing our own projector, since we will not have on-site storage capabilities. These issues are easily remedied and the cost savings as a result of the move will more than cover any additional expenses we may incur to address these minor inconveniences.

As mentioned last month, our board responded to some of our member's survey suggestions by instituting a "Monthly To

Do" list to provide more information for our newer members on orchid basics. This month, we have put together a panel of our own advanced growers to review the many aspects of orchid culture and answer specific questions that members and guests may have on their plants. We encourage you to bring your questions as well as your problem plants for diagnosis. This is a timely program, which will prepare both novice and advanced members well for the upcoming growing season.

Finally, I want to remind you that POS will participate in the upcoming San Diego Orchid Society's Show on March 22-24. Helge and his committee have been hard at work planning for the event and each of you are encouraged to participate by volunteering for the set up and take down or by lending your prime blooming plants to be part of the display. We hope to continue our previous award successes by securing a display award for the third straight year. More details will be forthcoming from the committee at the March meeting.

Happy Growing,



Alex Nadzan
President, POS

March To Do List

General

- Continue to follow recommendations for February as low night temperatures throughout February and early March will likely delay onset of the initiation of spring growth.
- Prepare for a busy spring cleaning period. Purchase orchid supplies in anticipation of the spring potting season.
- Avoid reusing pots as they carry potential for viral and bacterial infections. If you must reuse pots, disinfect plastic pots by soaking in a bleach/soap solu-

Snacks & Refreshments

This month, all members with last names beginning with **O through Z** 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!

tion overnight. Clay pots can be reused by cleaning, followed by sterilizing in an oven at 425°F for 2-3 hrs.

- As temperatures and light intensity increases during the month, consider repositioning shade cloth or moving orchids to avoid damaging effects due to increased light and heat as appropriate.
- To facilitate new growth consider positioning the emerging growths in the direction of the sun.
- More details on specific genera can be found on the AOS website: www.aos.org

Indoors and Greenhouse

- March is the peak month for blooming of Phalaenopsis. Stake so plants arch gracefully to enhance flower display. Monitor watering and feeding to support the rapid growth of spikes and flowers.
- In contrast to many other orchids that are ideally repotted when new root growth is initiated, Paphiopedilums can be repotted at almost anytime and benefit from repotting every year or two. March-April period is a good time to do it before the peak of repotting occurs for other orchids in the upcoming months.

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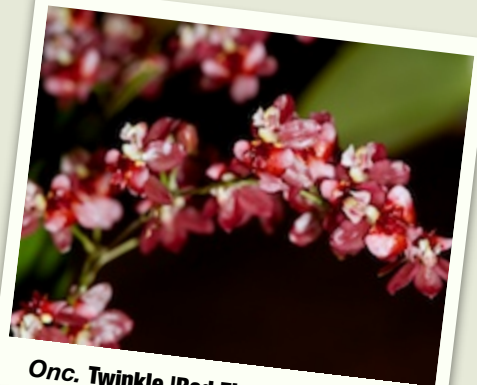
Gems From The Last Meeting



John Kidman introducing Peter Lin



Oncidium Tsiku Marguerite
NN#1 – Alex Nadzan



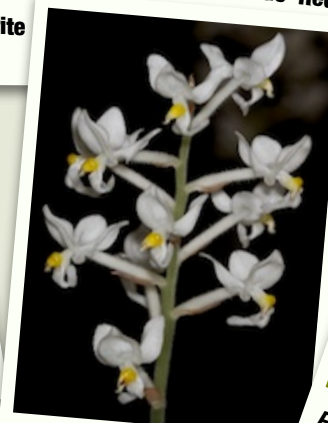
Onc. Twinkle 'Red Fire' – Alex Nadzan



Cym. Vanguard 'Mas Beauty' – Merle Robboy



C. Dual Aura – Alex Nadzan



Ludisia discolor var. *alba*



Prosthechea cochleata



Epi. porpax var. *'Gold Country'* – Alex Nadzan



Cym. Wallacia 'Burnt Gold' x *Karen Kakadu* – Bill Wong



Wilsonara Socat
Alex Nadzan

Photos by Helge Weissig - full album at www.palomarorchid.org

Membership News

February meeting was attended by 41 members, 3 guests, and 2 new members. Welcome to our newest members Anne Devereux and Allie Tran!

We recently changed our PO Box address. Please send any postal mail to Palomar Orchid Society, PO Box 130774, Carlsbad CA 92013.



General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly 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

Upcoming Events

March 2 & 3, 2013

South Bay Orchid Society
Show & Sale
southbayorchidsociety.com

March 3, 2013

San Diego Zoo Orchid Odyssey
events.sandiegozoo.org

March 5, 2013

Orchid Judging Center
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting
www.sdorchids.com

March 6, 2013

POS General Meeting
www.palomarorchid.org

March 8 - 10, 2013

Santa Barbara International
Orchid Show
www.sborchidshow.com

March 9, 2013

38th Annual Cymbidium Con-
gress
www.cymbidium.org

March 11, 2013

Long Beach Amateur Orchid So-
ciety Annual Auction
www.lbaos.com

March 20, 2013

SDCCS General Meeting

March 22 - 24

San Diego Orchid Society
Spring Show and Sale
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
Bill Wong (760) 931-0502
billtcwong@att.net



Orchid Show
and Sale March 2nd and 3rd

Orchids-R-Easy
Includes Free Classes All Day – Learn
to keep them blooming year after year

Location:
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
3330 Civic Center Drive, Torrance
(Torrance Blvd & Madrona Ave)

Sales: Sat & Sun 10 - 5
Show: Sat 12-5 & Sun 10-5

- Buy direct from commercial growers
- See award winning orchids
- All day demonstrations (orchid care & repotting)
- Get your questions answered
- Orchid art displays

• Admission: \$5
• Free Parking

Sponsored by
Daily Breeze
www.dailybreeze.com

For complete show information and a map:
www.southbayorchidsociety.com

San Diego County Orchid Society's
Orchids by the Sea
SHOW & SALE
In memory of Loren Batchman

SHOW DATES:
March 22, Friday
3 PM – 7 PM
March 23, Saturday
9 AM – 6 PM
March 24, Sunday
10 AM – 4 PM

SCOTTISH RITE CENTER
1895 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108

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

Information:
www.sdorchids.com
Contact: (760) 529-2947



Detecting and treating diseases (black rot shown) and pests early can avoid spreading to other orchids in your collection

Panel cont.

owners with copious displays of flowers.

The opportunity table will be supplied by Rex Foster Orchids and, undoubtedly, will include a number of their novel catleya alliance hybrids and some select species.

The program for the evening will be as follows:

- General Introduction and Overview - Alex
- Importance of light, temperature, and air movement - Renate
- Water and Fertilizing - Merle
- Orchid Pests and Diseases - Alex
- Repotting - Jerry
- Open for Questions and Discussion from Members and Guests

February Judging Report

There were 8 orchids presented for judging. 5 were awarded, including one FCC!



Lycaste Abou First Spring
Exhibited by Helen Pfister
Awarded FCC/AOS 93 points



Paph. Kemp Tower 'Sunset Valley Orchids'
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded AM/AOS 81 points



Zgm. Dynamite Peru
Exhibited by Fred Clarke
Awarded HCC/AOS 78 points



Phal. Mei Dar Blackberry 'Harlequin'
Exhibited by Helmut Rohrl
Awarded HCC/AOS 78 points



Phal. Brother Lancer 'Peloric'
Exhibited by Helmut Rohrl
Awarded JC/AOS

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

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

March To Do List *cont.*

Outdoors

- During periods of continued wet weather and cold nights, bring plants in bud inside to avoid rotting of buds or attack by snails and slugs.
- Ground orchid shoots should be evident; clean debris around plant and bait for snails.
- As the weather warms during March, cattleyas, oncidiums, cymbidiums, and Aussie dendrobiums should begin or continue blooming and initiate new growth. Begin to increase watering



frequency and fertilizer as new growth is observed.

- Once a cymbidium's flowers wilt, consider dividing and repotting overgrown plants. Extra plants can be shared with friend or offered for sale to fellow members at POS meetings.

Links to repotting and care:

www.orchideas.com, and
www.themulch.com

- Repot/divide overgrown cattleyas, oncidiums, dendrobiums and many other orchids once new root growth initiates. This avoids transplant shock that can set back most orchids repotted during inactive growth periods.

The monthly To Do list is a collaboration of several POS members. Some tips adapted from Thomas Miranda (AOS). We appreciate any and all comments, suggestions, and feedback on our new feature. Please send them to newsletter@palomarorchid.org!

The Editor's Corner



Is it really 74 degrees outside right now... in February? And wasn't it only a handful of days ago that I had ice on my car in the morning? No wonder Tom Miranda at the AOS calls this the "bipolar month"! The monthly to-do list edition contains some of his advice on how to make it easier on our orchids to adapt to these temperature fluctuations and other seasonal changes. Another opportunity to glean culture advice from very experienced growers will be at our upcoming meeting. Don't miss out on this first in an occasional series of culture-class type presentations and question and answer sessions!

In the meantime, the committee charged with putting together the POS display at the SDCOC Spring Show and Sale has put together a conceptual plan for the display. We will try to make do without schlepping any sand into the Scottish Rite Center, but there will definitely be sea shells! The theme, after all, is "Orchids by the Beach". More important than the design of the backdrop though will be the plants featured in the exhibit. For those, we will, as always, be depending on your generous loans. Please look out for further details at the meeting and by email.

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

Happy Growing!

POS Officers

Alex Nadzan — President

John Kidwell — 1st Vice President/Programs

Terri Lofthouse — 2nd Vice President/Raffle

Cathy Belt — 3rd Vice President/Membership

Sandi Sandquist — Secretary

TBD — Treasurer

Merle Robboy, Renate Schmidt,

Warren Stehle — 2nd Year Trustees

Carl Lofthouse, Elf Mittonn, Vidya Sirsi — 1st Year Trustees

Helge Weissig — Newsletter & Website Editor

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Website

www.palomarorchid.org

www.facebook.com/palomarorchid

www.flickr.com/groups/palomarorchid/

