



# 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

May 2014



**SD County Fair Orchid Opportunity**

Nico Goosens is organizing a display and information table staffing at this year's San Diego County Fair.

Page 2

**AmazonSmile**

The Palomar Orchid Society is registered with AmazonSmile and Amazon will donate 0.5% of merchandise costs to POS if you use this service.

Page 3

**Gems from the Last Meeting**

Jerry Spencer and Merle Robboy spoke on specimen orchids and growing orchids in coastal and inland areas respectively.

Page 5

**Collector's Item: C. tenebrosa**

This is an article in the collector's item series of the AOS website. Check out [aos.org](http://aos.org) for a list of other orchids considered collectibles.

Page 6

**Calendar of Events**

The POS Annual Auction will be held on May 17, 2014. There are still opportunities to volunteer!

Page 6

May Meeting • Wednesday, May 7, 2014 • 6:30 pm

## Auction Volunteer Orientation Meeting

Instead of of the general agenda, we will be using this month's meeting as a training and orientation session for all volunteers for the upcoming auction.

The annual auction is POS' main fund raiser and we depend on contributions from our membership to the event, namely plant donations and volunteer time.

As this is prime re-potting time, please consider setting aside some divisions for the auction. Every year, member and vendor donations have enabled us to raise the money we need to pay for our meeting facility, our speakers, and the opportunity table.

We are fortunate to have a few very active individuals but we need *your* help for the auction! There are still a handful of responsibilities to be assigned and you are strongly encouraged to participate. Consider signing up some of your family members as well, this may actually be a lot of fun for them!

All volunteers will receive a plant at the orientation meeting as a token of gratitude.

Whether you are able to volunteer or not, please join us on May 17 at the Pavilion and take advantage of the opportunity to purchase some very nice plants at very reasonable prices!



THE PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS

## 2014 Orchid Auction



Saturday, May 17, 2014

Preview at 10:00 am  
Auction starts at 11:00 am

The Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
1105 La Bonita Drive  
San Marcos, CA 92078

FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING  
More info at [www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Clearly, spring has sprung in San Diego, and our orchids are responding accordingly: they are initiating new root and pseudo bulb growth. Repotting and dividing should be in full swing, so please set aside a few extra plants for our upcoming auction on May 17. Also, we have several volunteers signed up for the event but we can always use more help to allow our workers to take breaks and hopefully purchase a few new additions to their respective collections. All volunteers should plan to attend our training session on May 7. Those in attendance will receive a plant as a token of gratitude for their participation in our main fund raising event.

All who were able to attend the recent caravan to Andy's Orchids and Lico's Nursery had a great time browsing the many varieties of orchids at Andy's and picking up a few new plants to take care of. It always amazes me the vast number of orchids Andy has (over 750,000, by his estimate!) and it is an educational experience to learn new things from Andy on where he collected or received the many unusual species he grows and how he manages the many different growing conditions required for his diverse collection. Lico Orchids is also interesting not only for the unique plants in their boutique nursery but how Nico and Lisa grow them in their greenhouse and outside growing areas. Attendees also were treated to Nico's excellent barbequed chicken as well as numerous tasty dishes brought by attendees for the potluck. Our sincere thanks to Lisa and Nico for hosting this event. Our next caravan scheduled for Saturday, June 7 will be at Merle Rob-boy's and Jerry and Anita Spencer's homes and should be another fun, educational and social experience not to be missed. Jerry and Anita will be hosting all three societies so it is an opportunity to meet orchid enthusiasts from other societies.

The months of June and early July will provide us another unique opportunity to promote value of orchids and our society to the general public. Nico Goosens is organizing for our three societies (San Diego, Cymbidium and POS) to participate in the San Diego County Fair for the entire duration of the fair as well as on Orchid Day, Friday,

June 20. This will give volunteers who work at the booth free admission to the fair for a couple of hours of manning the booth, then have the rest of the day to enjoy the fair at their leisure. Please see the additional information below for more details.

Finally, the POS board continues to 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.

With warm regards,



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

## SD County Fair Orchid Opportunity

We have a great opportunity to enlighten the general public about orchids, our beloved hobby, and our local orchid societies that support them. The new Garden Show Coordinator at the agricultural fair, Cindy Benot, is very enthusiastic about promoting gardening interests and especially orchids. She is offering all garden clubs and societies the opportunity to promote their hobbies. There will be information booths available at the main entrance to the Flower & Garden Show for organization volunteers to hand out brochures, sign up new members, and

answer questions (possibly offer demonstrations or talks).

Nico Goosens has proposed that all three San Diego County orchid societies combine efforts to encourage the general public to join us in our hobbies. The San Diego County Fair ([www.sdfair.com](http://www.sdfair.com)) attracts well over one and a half million visitors during the month long opening. Volunteer ambassadors from all three societies will be needed to staff information booths from June 7 thru July 6 (except Mondays) to answer questions, sign up members, and possibly offer demonstrations and talks about orchids.

Friday, June 20th, will be ORCHID DAY with expert speaker talks and live music at the garden stage. It will be our goal to fully staff information tables every minute of that day. We also want to have as many hours covered on all other days of the fair. Volunteers will receive free entrance to the fair: spend two or three hours at the information table and the rest of the fair is yours to enjoy.

continued on page 3





## April Judging Report

There were 3 orchids presented for judging, but none were awarded.

### Judging Sessions

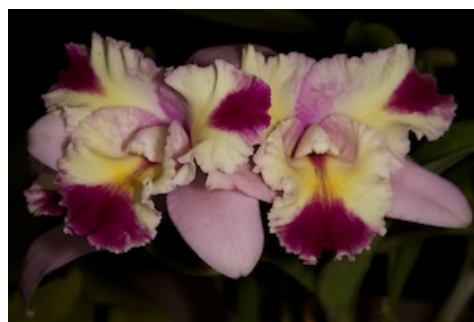
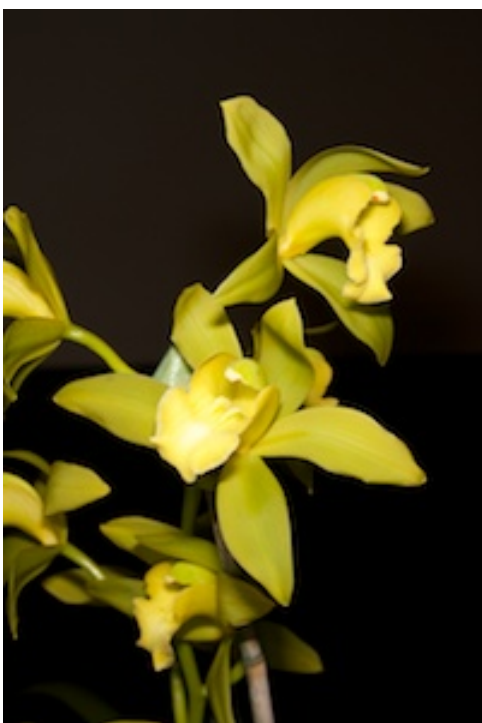
- The Pacific South Judging Center conducts each month three judging sessions in the Los Angeles and San Diego area. Locally, the sessions are held in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado in room 104 on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6 pm.
- Visitors, with or without plants, are welcome anytime. If a member 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



### County Fair cont.

The best news of all is that we will be entering an orchid display. Nico has offered to build a small greenhouse (complete with automatic vents and a fogger for humidity) and a lath structure in an informal backyard garden setting. This will be used to display the various beautiful orchids that hobbyist grow and that are generally not available at stores.

The fair theme this year is 'THE FAB FAIR', a twist on The Fab Four, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Beatles coming to America. The garden theme will be 'FLOWER POWER' and Nico has chosen the title 'OR-



CHIDS, BEETLES, AND OTHER POLLINATORS - COME TOGETHER' for our display. The talk will highlight orchids and their pollinators (beetles foremost). Display boards, insect boxes, plus puzzles and other games will depict their importance to our world. This should be an attention grabber in the gardens. During volunteer attendance hours, the greenhouse will be unlocked for close up viewing of the orchids. Volunteers will answer questions.

POS members are encouraged to participate in this project. We will need the loan of orchid plants in bloom for the display (to be rotated out as needed; the loaned plants will be receiving the best of care). Volunteers will be needed for the information booth to cover as many days and hours as possible, most importantly during ORCHID DAY.

There will be a sign up sheet at the May 7 meeting for those of you who are interested in participating. Alternatively, you may contact Nico directly to learn more and sign up for helping to set up the display, loan plants, or volunteer as an ambassador during the running of the fair

(Nico Goosens, licoorchid@aol.com, 760.942.4143).

### May Orchid To-Do List

This month's to-do list can be found at [www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org). Due to the recent heat wave, you may want to give more attention to watering and providing additional shade as needed.

### AmazonSmile

The Palomar Orchid Society is registered with AmazonSmile: [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Every item available for purchase on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) is also available on AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

Simply click on [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to set up POS as your designated charity.

## Collector's Item: *Cattleya tenebrosa*

This is an article in the collector's item series of the AOS website. Check out [aos.org](http://aos.org) for a list of beautiful and rare orchids and their descriptions.

*Cattleya tenebrosa*, one of the most spectacular of the former Brazilian laelias, was first described by Rolfe in 1891 as *Laelia grandis* var. *tenebrosa* in reference to its dark color compared to the yellow of *L. grandis*. The name *tenebrosa* doesn't just mean dark but rather implies a mysterious or supernatural quality. Two years later Rolfe, realizing this was a completely different species, described it

The species typically produces two or three, very large (over 20cm - 8") flowers per growth. The sepals and petals of most clones is an unusual bronze or copper-brown and some clones can be exceptionally dark. Like *C. (L.) purpurata*, the petals tend to reflex along the midrib giving many clones a rather open appearance to the flower although line-breeding is beginning to flatten many newer clones. In addition to the typical dark clones a couple of



as *Laelia tenebrosa*, a name that has effective "stuck" for nearly a hundred years. This species is closely related to *L. grandis* and *L. purpurata* and they share many characteristics. The plants and flowers tend to be larger in all respects than those of *C. (L.) grandis* and even many clones of *C. (L.) purpurata*. The Brazilian laelias differ from cattleyas in that they typically have 8 pollinia rather than the 4 typical of cattleyas and in recent years there have been several proposed transfers to *Sophranitis*, *Hadrolaelia*, *Brasilaelia*, and *Chironiella*, although molecular analysis suggests that the entire group of Brazilian laelias is best treated by including them in the genus *Cattleya*.

rare yellow cultivars exist. One of these yellow cultivars, *C. (L.) tenebrosa* 'Walton's Grange', FCC/AOS has figured prominently in the background of many exceptionally dark magenta and purple-red hybrids bred from *C. dowiana* and *C. dowiana* var. *aurea*.

The plants come from the southern parts of Bahia and Espirito Santo states of Brazil and flower in the early summer months.

Plants can be quite tall

with pseudobulbs up to 30 cm (12 inches) and a rigid leaf reaching another 30cm long. The two to four, very large flowers, are borne on a strong inflorescence that can also reach another 30 cm. Plants are easily cultivated under typical intermediate, *Cattleya*, conditions although they can be flowered with less light than *C. (L.) purpurata*. The plants are not nearly as tolerant of cold as *C. (L.) purpurata* which can be



exposed to brief periods near or even below freezing. When exposed to temperatures below their liking, the plants will develop lesions on the leaves and pseudobulbs that look much like spotty sunburn but often on only surface of the leaf and not completely through the leaf. When this happens, care should be taken to prevent secondary bacterial or fungal infections until the lesions dry and stabilize.

Ron McHatton, June 2009





# Gems From The Last Meeting



**Alex Nadzan & Jerry Spencer**



**Merle Robboy**



***C. intermedia* 'Alba Hoyt'  
James Mickelson**



***Coelogyne brachyptera*  
Allie Tran**



***C. Mossmist Matriarch* – Alex Nadzan**



***Lc. Straight Answer* 'No Question Asked' – Anita Spencer**



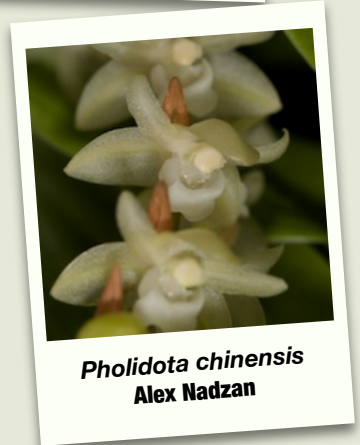
***Den. polyanthum*  
Nico Goosens**



***Leptotes bicolor*  
Deb Amis**



***Phrag. besseae*  
Nico Goosens**



***Pholidota chinensis*  
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.

## The Editor's Corner



I really ought to be out in the yard repotting the last remaining plants in need of that attention, alas, it is much too hot right now. Not only do I not want to face the temperatures myself but I also worry about my plants. Fresh medium does not hold nearly as much water as the old bark that needs replacing. I fear that newly repotted plants would not fare so well with these temperatures as their roots are thrown from too wet of a substrate into one too dry. Let's hope that regular weather patterns return soon, although, and I have written about this before, we may have been getting a taste of the new normal this past week.

The auction is just around the corner and the last of the preparations are coming together. As a first, this year, we will be able to accept credit cards as form of payment. No more excuses now not to go on a wild purchasing spree! Don't miss out on a great opportunity to both increase you collection and help the Palomar Orchid Society at the same time!

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

**Palomar Orchid Society**  
**PO Box 130774**  
**Carlsbad CA 92013**

**Email**  
[newsletter@palomarorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@palomarorchid.org)

**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

### 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)

### May 21, 2014

SDCCS General Meeting

### June 3, 2014

Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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

### June 4, 2014

POS General Meeting  
 Bruce Kidd  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

### June 18, 2014

SDCCS General Meeting

### July 1, 2014

Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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

### July 2, 2014

POS General Meeting  
 James Rose  
 Pavilion at Lake San Marcos  
[www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org)

### August 5, 2014

Orchid Judging Center  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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



### August 6, 2014

POS General Meeting  
 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)