



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.

A Monthly Publication

October 2020

Oct. Speaker
Page 1

President's Message
Page 3

October To Do List
Page 7

Speaker's Info

Lou Jost: Discovering, documenting, and protecting hotspots of orchid endemism in Ecuador---the 2020 legacy of a 2000-2001 SDCOS grant



The speaker for our joint October 6th Zoom meeting will be Lou Jost, Director of EcoMinga Foundation, and recipient of a conservation grant from the San Diego County Orchid Society. Lou is an internationally renowned expert in molecular phylogenetics, who has made significant contributions to the protection of orchids and orchid habitat in the New World Tropics. Lou will tell the story of discovering new orchid species, learning to understand their local distribution patterns, and then starting a foundation in 2006 to protect the areas where these species grow. Along the way Lou will talk a bit

about the pace of orchid evolution and the practical difficulties of maintaining orchid reserves in Latin America. The helping hand of the SDCOS and its members has been there for all of this since the beginning.

Lou is a physicist and mathematician turned biologist, though he had been growing orchids since he was a little kid. Lou worked as a jungle guide in Costa Rica, a birding guide in Ecuador, and a wildlife artist. In 1994, he moved permanently to Ecuador and began to discover many new species of orchids. Lou and his colleagues then founded the EcoMinga Foundation, to purchase and protect the forests where he had discovered significant concentrations of new, locally endemic orchid species. Lou is now the Director of the Foundation that currently owns twelve reserves covering 20,000 acres. Lou also works on the mathematics of biodiversity and population genetics. His publications in those fields have been cited by other scientific publications more than ten thousand times.

For those members who want to learn more about the area of Ecuador and the foundation, the August 2020 issue

of AOS Orchids magazine (pp. 628-635) has an entertaining article on the area of Ecuador about which Lou will be speaking. Meeting attendees also may want to look at the website www.ecominga.com and blog: ecomingafoundation.wordpress.com

Also note that Lou will be participating in the Orchid Digest International Speakers Day on October 31 along with several other interesting speakers, including Alek Zaslowski of AWZ Orchids in Brazil who spoke to our society on *Cattleya violacea* a few years ago.

For more information on signing up and attending this virtual meeting, please see the full page ad on page 6. Interested individuals may sign up on the Orchid Digest website at <http://orchiddigest.org>

Speaker cont.



Teagueia puroana



Teagueia alyssana



Pleurothallis chicalensis

President's Message

Hello POS Members and Friends,

We hope all of our members and friends are continuing to stay healthy and doing our best to keep busy. With the easing of COVID infections in the San Diego County area, we are now able to participate in more activities. This is a welcome change. One major change is that many of us can get some of the personal grooming services that have been closed for months. We also can eat out at more places, albeit under controlled conditions. A few orchid growers, such as Andy's Orchids, are planning Open Houses as announced recently. Unfortunately, large gatherings are still not permitted so in person meetings, etc. will be deferred until sometime next year.

With only two more meetings this year (October and November), we will continue our joint Zoom meetings with SDCOS. Those meetings have been successful and keep our members in touch with other growers and speakers. Some of us are hopeful that meetings can resume early next year, but that possibility is a long way off.

The October meeting will have Lou Jost as our guest speaker who is an orchid expert and Director of the EcoMinga Foundation in Ecuador that manages orchid conservation reserves covering 20,000 acres.

More on his bio is provided in the accompanying section.

We are continuing our Culture Meetings on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7:30 pm. Peter Tobias will give a presentation on mounting orchids. The log in for the General and Culture Zoom meetings will be the same as in previous months and will be repeated at the end of the email announcing the October newsletter.

The past few months have been challenging for most of us. Besides coping with COVID, we have had a warm summer and are now experiencing many wildfires throughout our state and in Washington and Oregon. Fortunately, we haven't noticed a negative impact on our orchid collections so that is good. Many of our plants are showing new growths, sheaths and blooms.

If you have photos of blooming orchids, please send them to Alex with their names and we will include as many as possible in the Newsletter. If you have photos to include in the Zoom meetings, please send them directly to Debbie Halliday of San Diego County Orchid Society. Please include some background information on the species, where they come from and your growing conditions or other tips (see pg. 5 for more info).

We have not continued our section on Tips and Tricks the

past few months due to a number of reasons. We weren't sure how helpful this section has been to our members.

We do recommend that members regularly test plants for virus. This is something many of us neglect to do or do too infrequently. Virus testing is easy, gives quick results and helps us improve the quality of our collection. If you haven't already invested in kits, we recommend the [Agitest](#) kit that tests for Cymbidium Mosaic Virus (CymMV) and the Odontoglossum Ringspot Virus (ORSV). Most of our members dispose of the plant if either virus is detected. We have one member who brings a test kit along when purchasing plants to avoid buying virused plants. This is actually a good idea and protects your collection. You can buy the kits online, as very few stores carry these kits.

In closing, both of us hope all of our members and friends remain healthy, upbeat and optimistic about the future. As always, Bill and Alex are available to listen to your suggestions, questions and concerns. Please call Bill at 760-931-0502 or Alex at 760-529-5814 or e-mail them at billtcwong@att.net or anadzan@mac.com.

Zoom Culture Classes Continuing on Wednesday, October 7th at 7:30 pm

We are going to continue Joint Zoom Culture Classes on the Wednesday following the Joint General Meeting, which is normally the day of our regular POS meetings. Our third class will be on Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30 pm. SDCOS member **Peter Tobias will conduct a class on mounting orchids.** You can join this Zoom meeting using the same log in information as the previous meeting.

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(Instagram)

POS PHYSICAL MEETINGS CANCELED FOR MONTHS OF OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

General Meeting Information

The Palomar Orchid Society regularly meets the FIRST WEDNESDAY of every month at 6:30 pm at the Conference Center 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 and 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 conference center will be on the left and there is plenty of parking in front.

How to Submit Your Show-N-Tell Orchid Pics for Zoom Meetings

At our previous Zoom meetings, Debby Halliday presented some very nice orchid pics from submissions by SDCOS members and a few POS members. We encourage our POS members to send in pics of their own orchids for the October and future meetings. Please send in your orchid photos to Debby Halliday at president@sdorchids.com by the weekend before the meeting. You should provide in your email the information shown on the following form that SDCOS normally uses for their Show-N-Tells and any other info you feel desirable under comments. If you do not know all of the information, just provide what you have. Also indicate that you are a POS member. Additional information on your orchids can be gleaned from the internet either by Googling the name of the orchid to determine a hybrid's parentage or the species origin. One can also get this info using the free site Orchid Roots at <http://bluenanta.com> and searching the orchid name. Should you have any questions or need help, do not hesitate to contact Alex Nadzan at anadzan@mac.com or 858-205-6789.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY	
PLANT NAME	_____
PARENTAGE	_____ _____
CIRCLE ALL CORRECT DATA -	
MINIATURE	FRAGRANT
OUTSIDE GROWN	HYBRID
HOUSE GROWN	NEW CROSS
GREENHOUSE GROWN	SPECIES
SPECIES - FROM WHICH COUNTRY?	_____
COMMENTS	_____
EXHIBITOR	



International Speakers Day

A Virtual Experience

October 31, 2020 12:30-5 pm EDT

All speakers live, via Webinar

\$30 Register [here](#) to join in

All registrants will be entered in a raffle for prizes donated by our sponsors and for memberships/renewals to the Orchid Digest



Lourens Grobler, Afri Orchids, Pretoria, South Africa.

My 10 Favorite African Orchids

Lourens has been growing orchids since he was 10 years old and now co-owns Afri Orchids, a nursery that for 40 years has specialized in species from around the world. The collection includes approximately 4,000 species. Lourens is the co-author of the *Field Guide to the Orchids of Northern South Africa and Swaziland*. He is an accredited South African Orchid Council Judge and chaired the judging committee at the 21st World Orchid Conference.

Andrea Niessen, Orquídeas del Valle, Cali, Colombia

Orchids in Nature in Colombia

Andrea Niessen, a native of Cali, Colombia, former virologist and lifelong orchid grower, has served as the president of the Asociación Vallecaucana de Orquideología and judge of the Colombian Orchid Committee. A popular speaker, Andrea has given lectures around the world. With her husband Juan Carlos Uribe, Andrea owns Orquídeas del Valle, an orchid nursery that has been researching, reproducing and exporting Colombian orchids for over 25 years.



Lou Jost, EcoMinga Foundation, Baños, Ecuador

Orchids as Guides to the Conservation of Unique Biodiversity

Lou, an internationally renowned expert in molecular phylogenies, has made significant contributions to the protection of orchids and orchid habitat in the New World Tropics. Originally from the US, Lou was fascinated by tropical diversity, and worked in Mexico and Costa Rica before moving to Ecuador in 1994. He has described a number of new Ecuadorian orchid species, many found in unprotected areas. Lou formed the EcoMinga Foundation in 2006 to build large reserves to protect strategic biodiversity hotspots.

Alek Zaslowski, AWZ Orquídeas, Vitória, Brazil

Beautiful Brazilian Mountains (and the Orchids that Grow There)

Alek, an engineer, grew up surrounded by orchids, and traveled with his father to see and photograph orchids in nature. He joined his father to establish AWZ Orquídeas in 1991, and they began to reproduce many of the species in their collection because of their rarity and disappearance from the wild. Now with over 20,000 plants from around the world, the nursery has some of the finest known varieties of Cattleya Alliance species.



Special thanks to our sponsors

Sunset Valley Orchids * Ecuagenera * H & R Orchids * Waldor Orchids * The Orchid Inn
Tropical Orchid Farm

October 'To Do' List

General

- Shorter days and cooler nights in October will be the signal for orchids to slow down and prepare for winter's rest. Watch them carefully and cut back on water and fertilizer as cooler days and nights prevail. Protect outdoor orchids from the first fall and winter rains.
- Fall blooming cattleyas and cymbidiums are beginning their blooming season. Provide adequate water and fertilizer but do so in the mornings so plants dry out before nightfall.
- Maintain good hygiene practices to minimize transmission of pests and viruses. Watch for fungus and bacterial rot as weather cools and wetter conditions prevail.
- More details on specific genera can be found on the [AOS website](#)

Indoors and Greenhouse

- Carefully monitor greenhouse temperatures and check that fans, automatic vents and heaters are in good working order.
- Continue to provide good air circulation for indoor plants to discourage diseases and pests such as mealy bugs and scale. Treat early to avoid spreading to other plants. More info on pests and diseases can be found at the [AOS website](#).
- Start to cut back on watering and frequency of fertilizing as the days shorten and nights cool. Avoid over fertilizing to minimize root damage and soft growths. Keep to one half to one fourth the recommended amount on the package.

Outdoors

- Continue to monitor and control snails, slugs and pests as cooler and wet weather will bring them out. They can do considerable damage to plants in short order.
- Cattleyas should be in their fall blooming season as well as hardening off of growth produced in the spring and summer. Cut back on watering and frequency of fertilizing as plants slow down their growth rates.
- Cymbidiums should be developing spikes so switch from high nitrogen fertilizer to one with higher phosphorus and potassium (Hi Bloom such as 10-30-20) to initiate and stimulate spike production. Stake spikes early to train them to grow upright while spikes are flexible. See also the [AOS website](#) for more information.
- Although the best time to repot cymbidiums is in the early spring following blooming, plants can be repotted at this time if roots are deteriorating and media is decomposed in order to avoid loss of plants over the winter period.
- Catasetums/cycnoches are in their fall blooming period. Continue to give them warm temperatures, high light and fertilize well at each watering until you see them begin their dormant period by the yellowing and dropping of leaves. Cut back on water and fertilizer as suggested by Fred Clarke on [his website](#).
- To induce your phalaenopsis to re-bloom, subject them to 1-2 weeks of night temps of around 50°, but bring them in when night temps go below 50° as they are quite sensitive to cold. If you grow them in the house, put them in a cool room or near a window to obtain the lower night temps for spike initiation.

The monthly To Do list is a collaboration of several POS members. We appreciate any and all comments, suggestions, and feedback on our feature. Please send them to newsletter@palomarorchid.org!

Ken Campbell's Photos



Ascda. Kulwadee Fragrance



C. Mark Jones x Slc. Jungle Elf



Chrisnetia (V.) Green Light



Blc. Kaboom x Pot. Golden Circle

Jerry Spencer's Photos



Rth. Dennis Kone 'Ruby Red'.



Pcv. Golden Peacock.



Rlc. Little Mike X C. Black Jack



Den. Pixie Princess



C. Caudabec



Ctt. Mariner.



C. Elegans 'Sanguiana'

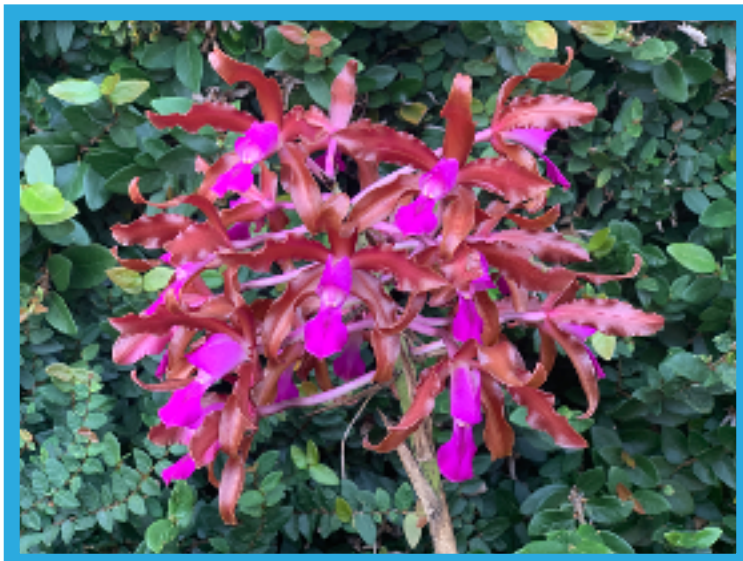


C. Tian Mu 'Sesame'

Alex Nadzan's Photos



Miltonia Earl Dunn with close up



Lc. Cherry Plum with close up



Miltonia spectabilis v. moreliana



Mtssa. Dark Star 'The Orchidworks'



C. Lochinvar 'Black Knight'



B. cucullata



Lc. Sagarik Wax 'Silk Ball' AM/AOS



Lc. Orchid Affair



**C. bowringiana v. coerulea 'Blue Angel'
HCC/AOS**



C. bowringiana ('MAJ' x 'Black Prince')



**Enc. (plicata x gracile) x
Enc. Grand Bahama]**



Miltonia regnellii v. alba