

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

September 2015

#### **A Monthly Publication**

# **POS Caravan Reminder**

*Join us for a visit of* Don Rosenstock's home on Saturday August 29, 2015 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Page 2

#### **Gems from the Last** Meeting

Alek Zaslawski presented on the species Cattleya violacea, indigenous to his home country, Brazil. Page 3

#### **Orchid Judging Results Calendar of Events**

Phyllis Prestia reports on the orchid judging results for the month of August.

Page 4

Check the back page for upcoming meetings, sales, shows, and other events!

Page 4



### September Meeting • Wednesday, September 2, 2015 • 6:30 pm



Brandon Tam

## The Orchid Collection of the Huntington Botanical Gardens

This month, our guest speaker is Brandon Tam, Orchid Collection Specialist at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA. The Huntington has one of the largest orchid collections in the United States

with 16,000 plants. Brandon will present an overview of the collection and discuss the Huntington's involvement in the orchid world. Then, he will present his 10 favorite orchids in the collection including their origins and growing culture.

Brandon has been with the Huntington for over 8 years. He began volunteering at the institution at the age of 14. There were always plenty of opportunities to quench his thirst for plant knowledge, from tending plants in the Conservatory to database entry of pressed specimens in the Herbarium.

Brandon credits his grandmother for inspiring him to further his studies within



**Paphiopedilum Evie Cutting** 



Paphiopedilum Winston Churchill 'Indomitable'

the botanical world and pursue a career within that field. She bought him his first orchid at age 7, a white flowering cymbidium. She would take him to their local nursery and let him pick out a plant on every visit. Over time, his orchid collection grew, and his knowledge of orchids grew also.

A few months after he graduated from high school at the age of 16, the director of the Botanical Gardens offered him an internship within the Orchid Department to reorganize and perpetuate the collection. He also began attending college, eventually earning a B.S. in Plant Science

continued on page 4

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe that autumn is upon us. One wouldn't know by the very warm weather we are having. The onset of fall brings a flurry of orchid blooms along with a similar flurry of orchid shows and sales. One particularly noteworthy show in September is the Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale at South Coast Plaza on September 25-26 with free admission, great vendors and a large variety of plants and supplies. Check it out at http://www.fascinationoforchids.com/.

Three orchid events of interest in October are the Orchid Clinic at the San Diego Botanic Garden on Saturday, October 3, the Huntington Gardens Orchid Show and Sale on October 16-18, and the Fall Orchids in the Park Show on October 24-25 sponsored by the SDCOS.

The first event will replace the Fall Orchid Show and Sale, which will move to late March 2016 as part of the SD Botanic Gardens Spring Garden Festival. The orchid clinic should be of particular interest to beginners in that there will be four talks, two in the morning and two in the afternoon, covering basic culture and repotting of phalaenopsis, cymbidium and cattleya orchids as well as a session on how to rebloom your orchid. There will be two vendors with displays and orchids for sale.

The Huntington Show is being organized by our September speaker, Brandon Tam, who is a young, up and coming orchid expert and manager of the Huntington Orchid collection. I am sure Brandon will share his experiences at the Huntington and will discuss the upcoming show. If you have never been to Huntington Gardens in the Pasadena area, it is a wonderful experience for orchid and plant enthusiasts alike. The gardens are magnificent and the art galleries are a must see for visitors. It is an all day event, well worth the ride and the price of admission.

Finally, the POS board met in
August and finalized the date for
the 2016 auction and sale. Please
mark your calendars for Saturday, April 30 (set up on Friday
afternoon), which is the weekend
before Mother's Day. We also
made the decision to offer for sale
some blooming orchids and arrangements prior the auction for
those customers who only want to purchase
a few plants and do not want to stay for the
entire auction. It is a great opportunity to
get some unique Mother's Day plants.

As always, the POS board continues to 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,

Sley Huffer Alex Nadzan

Alex Nadzan President, POS

# POS Caravan Reminder

Join us for a visit of Don Rosenstock's home on Saturday August 29, 2015 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Don grows numerous Cattleyas, Dendrobiums and Laelias in his greenhouse, in-

### San Diego County Orchid Society's Fall Show in the Park



Saturday October 24th 2015 Noon to 5 pm

Sunday October 25th 2015 10am to 4 pm

Casa del Prado rm 101 Balboa Park

sdorchids.com







cluding plants he has collected during his world travels. You will enjoy seeing his tropical garden, the large koi pond, and the Japanese garden at the back of the property. From there, you can enjoy an unobstructed view of nearby mountains. Don will have orchids and other blooming plants (beautiful Phalangias and Bromeliads as well as Cycads) and some orchid cuttings for sale. You are invited to bring snacks to share. We will meet near his home to carpool in. For last minute RSVPs, call Charlie (760) 481-4281 and let him know that you plan to attend.



Snacks & Refreshments

Snacks & Refreshments

This month, all members with last.

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Thank you!

Thank you!

# Gems From The Last Meeting





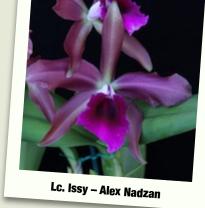
Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Starburst' **Alex Nadzan** 



Anita & Jerry Spencer







Epicatt. Volcano Trick 'Paradise' – Iso Zehner





C. Spotted Gem 'Snow Leopard' Alex Nadzan

Beauty' – Alex Nadzan

Photos by Alex Nadzan and Phyllis Prestia - 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 4way 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.

# **August Judging Reports**

In August there was one orchid presented and awarded.



Text and photos by Phyllis Prestia

# **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



#### Brandon Tam continued

at California State University, Pomona at age 21.

Currently, at the age of 22, Brandon is the Orchid Collection Specialist focusing mostly on paphiopedilums, since a large chunk of the collection consists of that specific genus.

Sales: Sat 9-5 & Sun 9-4
Show: Sat 11-5 & Sun 9-4
Location: South Coast Botanic Garden 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes

Buy direct from commercial growers
See award winning orchids/displays
All day demonstrations on orchid care and reporting
Stroll the botanical gardens
Admission: \$9 Adults \$6 Seniors
Free Parking

For all showinformation and map to gardenss

WWW.SOUTH Day or child Society.com

From hybridizing new plants to the propagation of rare and endangered species, it is a high priority for the Huntington to further the advancement of plants within the orchid world. At the moment, Brandon is working on the conservation aspect of the collection while acquiring and adding more

> rare orchids for the institution's fast-growing collection.

He is a member of 7 different orchid societies located all over Southern California and has served on the Board of the Directors for the San Gabriel Valley Orchid Society.

Down the road, he plans to travel the world orchid hunting on behalf of the Huntington. In addition to being the Orchid Collection Specialist, he is also the keeper of the Amorphophallus titanium collection, better known as the Corpse Flower. He oversees 50 titaniums alongside the orchid collection in the green-



house, and has successfully bloomed one flower during his tenure, in August 2014.

# Paphiopedilum

# paff-ee-oh-PED-ih-lum

The following is the Paphiopedilum culture sheet provided by the AOS and available at their website.

Paphiopedilums, the lady's-slipper orchids, originate in the jungles of the Far East including Indonesia. They are semiterrestrial, growing in humus and other material on the forest floor, on cliffs in pockets of humus and occasionally in trees. They are easy to grow in the home, under lights or in the greenhouse.

Light is easier to provide for paphiopedilums than many other types of orchids. They require shady conditions, as in the home in an east or west window, or near a shaded south window. In the greenhouse, shade must be provided. Give about 1,000 to 1,500 foot-candles. In the home, fluorescent lighting is excellent; suspend two or four tubes 6 to 12 inches above the leaves.



**Temperatures** for paphiopedilums cover a considerable range. Paphiopedilums are traditionally separated into two groups: the warm-growing mottled-leaved types and the cool-



growing green-leaved types. A third, increasingly popular group is the warmer-growing strap-leaved multifloral paphiopedilums. Warmgrowing types should be kept at 60 to 65 F during the night, and 75 to 85 F or more during the day. Cool-growing types should be kept at 50 to 60 F during the night and 75 to 80 F during the day. However, many growers raise all plants in the same temperature range with excellent results. The plants can stand night temperatures in the 40s if necessary (as when grown outside in mild climates), as well as temperatures to 95 F. Care must be taken to protect the plants from rot when cold (keep humidity low, and avoid moisture on leaves or in the crowns of the plants), and also to protect from burning when hot (shade more heavily and increase humidity and air movement around the plants).

Water must be available at the roots constantly, because all plants in this genus have no pseudobulbs. All of these plants need a moist medium - never soggy, but never dry. Water once or twice a week.

Humidity for paphiopedilums should be moderate, between 40 and 50 percent, which can be maintained in the home by setting the plants on trays of gravel, partially filled with water, so that the plants never sit in water. In a greenhouse, average humidity is sufficient. Using an evaporative cooling system in warm climates can increase the humidity. Air movement is essential, especially when humidity is high. Fertilize on a regular schedule, but care must be taken to avoid burning of the fleshy, hairy roots. High-nitrogen fertilizers (such as 30-10-10) are recommended when potted in any fir-bark mix. In warm weather, some growers use half-strength applications every two weeks; others use one-quarter strength at every watering. It's important to flush with clear water monthly to leach excess fertil-

izer, which can burn roots. In cool weather, fertilizer applications once a month are sufficient.



**Potting** should be done about every two years, or as the medium decomposes. Seedlings and smaller plants are often repotted annually. Mixes vary tremendously; most are fine- or medium-grade fir bark, with varying additives, such as perlite (sponge rock), coarse sand and sphagnum moss. Moisture retention with excellent drainage is needed. Large plants can be divided by pulling or cutting the fans of the leaves apart, into clumps of three to five growths. Smaller divisions will grow, but may not flower. Spread the roots over a small amount of medium in the bottom of the pot and fill with medium, so that the junction of roots and stem is buried 1D 2 inch deep in the center of the pot. Do not overpot; an average plant should have a 4- to 6-inch pot.

#### The Editor's Corner



A couple of months ago I spoke with Don Rosenstock about one of his orchids that I had just taken a picture of. I mentioned to him that I had not been able to participate in any of the previous two caravans to his place and how much I was looking forward to the one organized for Saturday, August 29th. Of course, as my luck will have it, that will not happen and I will be spending my weekend on a plane to Japan instead. Cue the sad trombone!

The good news (?) is that I will be back on Wednesday in time for the meeting and I want to hear from all of you how much you enjoyed the opportunity to visit Don's beautiful home, look at his orchids and other plants, and share a few social hours with fellow POS members. Many thanks to Charlie Padelford for organizing this event, I am sure it will be a lot of fun!

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 Hoit & Jerry Spahn — 2nd Vice President/Raffle Sandi Sanguist — 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

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#### www

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

# **Upcoming Events**

#### August 29, 2015

POS Caravan Don Rosenstock's Home contact Charlie Padelford (760) 481-4281

#### September 1, 2015

Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting www.sdorchids.com

#### September 2, 2015

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

#### **September 16, 2015**

SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

#### **September 18, 2015**

Orchid Odyssey San Diego Zoo www.sandiegozoo.org

#### September 19 & 20, 2015

South Bay Orchid Society Show S. Coast Botanic Gardens, Palos Verdes www.southbayorchidsociety.com

#### September 26 & 27, 2015

Fascination of Orchids Show and Sale South Coast Plaza Village, Santa Ana www.ocorchidshow.com

#### October 6, 2015

Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting www.sdorchids.com

#### October 7, 2015

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

#### October 11, 2015

So Cal Orchid Species Soc. **Annual Orchid Auction** www.socalorchidspecies.com

#### October 16, 2015

Orchid Odyssey San Diego Zoo www.sandiegozoo.org

#### October 16 - 18, 2015

**Huntington Botanical Gardens** 1st Annual International Orchid www.huntington.org

#### October 21, 2015

SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

#### October 24 & 25, 2015

Fall Show In The Park www.sdorchids.com

#### November 3, 2015

Orchid Judging Center Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

SDCOS General Meeting www.sdorchids.com

#### **November 4, 2015**

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

#### November 6 - 8, 2015

Cal-Orchid Fall Open House www.calorchid.com

Annual Fall Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Open House www.sborchid.com

#### November 18, 2015

SDCCS General Meeting Pavilion at Lake San Marcos

## Other Orchid Societies' Meetings

#### **San Diego County Orchid Society**

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

