



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



Attending Our Meetings on Zoom

For those unable to attend meetings in person, we will continue to provide Zoom links found in the Newsletter email.

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REMINDER: June, July, & August Meeting Location and Time Change: Due to a conflict in scheduling, we will have to relocate to the Senior Center (799 Pine Ave, Carlsbad, CA 92008) adjacent to our current Pine Avenue Community Center location **with the meeting running from 5-8 pm**. There is ample parking and the meeting room is slightly smaller but will work for the 3 months listed, then back to the Community Center for the September through November meetings from 4-7pm.

Orchid Culture - Repotting and Dividing Your Orchids

Our June culture meeting will focus on some alternatives to standard media for growing orchids in view of the current scarcity and high cost of orchid bark and the use of these media to repot and divide a variety of orchids. We will briefly review the basics of repotting and dividing orchids and feature demonstrations on repotting using alternative types of media for orchids. June is one of the best times to repot your orchids when most orchids are actively growing by sending out new roots and producing new pseudobulbs. Two of our very experienced growers, Alex Nadzan and Ed Danielewicz, will conduct the session.

Alex Nadzan, POS Co-President, will briefly highlight repotting basics. Since we have reviewed this topic many times, Alex asks attendees review the [Repotting Basics document](#) on the POS website prior to this meeting.

Ed Danielewicz is a newer member of our society who has been growing orchids for many years (more detail on Ed's background below). Ed will highlight some newer media he is using and apply them to repotting some of his orchids. During the demonstration, both speakers will address any repotting questions you may have so bring them to the meeting. This should be a very educational session for our new members as well as for our more experienced growers who want to review techniques for the 2026 growing season.

The plant table this month will be provided by one of our local orchid growers.

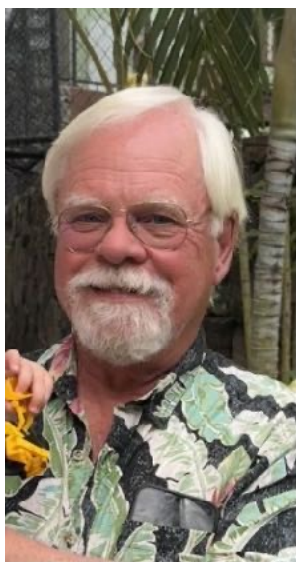
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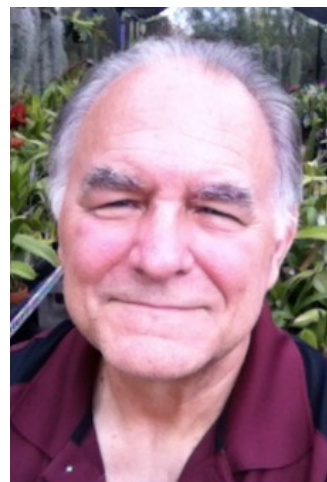
Ed Danielewicz has been a member of the San Diego Orchid Society since the early 1980's and has been growing orchids outside in Carlsbad for over 40 years. He has a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the University of Illinois in Champaign Urbana, Illinois. Ed retired from his career as a laser physicist in 2015 but has been a consultant on deep ultraviolet lasers and optics in his own company since then. For the past 25 years he has been involved with developing the DUV lasers used for manufacturing computer chips in the semiconductor industry.

Ed's interest in orchids was stimulated by the late John Walters of Rex Foster Orchids who sold him his first orchid and stimulated him with his infectious enthusiasm. In addition to orchids, Ed grows bromeliads, heliconia, palms, cycads, euphorbias, cacti, ginger and many other plants in his garden in La Costa. He joined the Palomar Orchid Society a few years ago after meeting Alex Nadzan a fellow U.of I. graduate at the World of Orchids Show at the San Diego Botanic Garden.

Like Ed, Alex Nadzan has been growing orchids in Southern California for many years and has focused on growing and hybridizing members of the cattleya alliance as well as growing Australian dendrobiums, cymbidiums, oncidiums and *Neofinetia falcata*, the Japanese wind orchid. He has been President or Co-president of POS for over 12 years and a longtime member of SDCOS.



Ed Danielewicz PhD



Alex Nadzan PhD

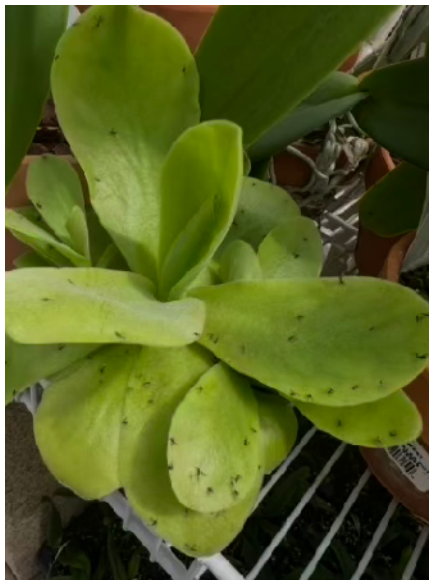
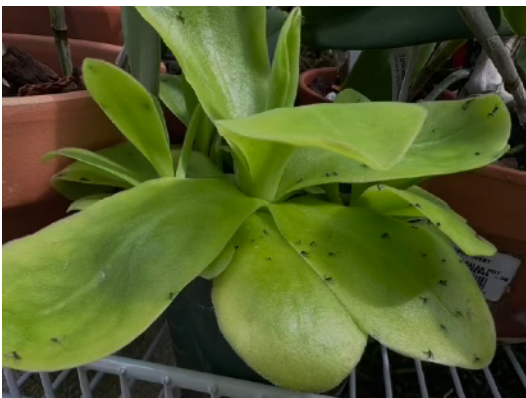


Laelia albida semi-alba

President's message:

Last month I wrote about the common bush snail. Now I'd like to discuss another common pest- the fungus gnat and methods of control. There are several methods that can, and should be employed simultaneously. The life cycle of the fungus gnat is approximately 3-4 weeks- eggs to larvae to pupa- and to adult gnat.

- 1) Yellow sticky traps, available on [Amazon](#), are inexpensive and can function for several years. Suspend them at approximately plant height. Change when full.
- 2) Nematodes - I purchase my nematodes from [FGMN nursery](#). Mix with R.O. water and spray on the surface of the potting media. I would avoid tap water which may contain chlorine or chloramine that could kill the nematodes. An application three weeks apart should work. You will note that this product is advertised as active against spider mites, thrip larvae, etc. - Can't hurt.
- 3) Mosquito Bits- This is a preparation of corn cob granules coated with *Bacillus thuringiensis sub-species israelensis* (Bti). Sprinkle the bits upon the bark or moss. Watering will send the *Bacillus* into the media. Another tactic is to soak the bits in R.O. water then spray the liquid upon the bark or moss.
- 4) There are numerous chemicals that have been used to kill the gnats and their larvae. *Azadirachtin* is a naturally occurring chemical compound extracted from the seeds of the neem tree. It is a growth regulator. [Arbico-organics](#) sells it on the Web in several different preparations.
- 5) However, my favorite method, by far, is the carnivorous *Pinguicula gigantea*- the Mexican Butterwort. I have ten- fifteen scattered around the greenhouse. The photos show the gnats in various stages of digestion. I grow them in plastic pots with a saucer. The media is sphagnum moss..... always wet! They eat 24x7 and don't quit. These plants grow rapidly and are frequently repotted into single plants. The Butterwort gets watered along with the orchids- R.O. water, fertilizer and all. Plants can be purchased online for about \$20. Other carnivorous plants may work as well- I don't know. -Barry



AOS Judging at the San Diego Judging Center April 2026

All award photographs taken by Jeanie Anderson April 18th Spring Show



Phragmipedium humboldtil 'Fortuna'
AM/AOS 87 points
Exhibited by Jane Wesley Brooks



Tolumnia Jairak Firm 'Butterfly'
AM/AOS 85 points
Exhibited by George Pflaum



Tolumnia Jairak Flyer 'Sporty'
AM/AOS 87points
Exhibited by Jane Wesley Brooks



Vanda Chen May Tse
'Bravo Orchids' AM/AOS 83 points
Exhibited by William Tse



Paphiopedilum violascens
AM/AOS 88 points
Exhibited by Paolo Garcia



Rhyncattleanthe Key Mersorcamdán
FCC/AOS 90 points
Exhibited by George Pflaum

Upcoming Events

May 2-June 1, 2026

'Orchids in the Wild' Show
San Diego Botanic Garden
Encinitas, CA
sdbg.org

May 23-25, 2026

POS Fundraiser at the
'Orchids in the Wild' Show
San Diego Botanic Garden
Encinitas, CA
sdbg.org

June 2, 2026

AOS Orchid Judging
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
aos.org

SDCOS General Meeting
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
sdorchids.com

June 3, 2026

POS General Meeting
New Location and Time
Senior Center, 5-8 PM
799 Pine Ave,
Carlsbad, 92008
palomarorchid.org

June 6, 2026

SDCOS Species Meeting
David Vandenbroek
4davidv@gmail.com

June 12-14, 2026

Andy's Orchids Open House
Encinitas, CA
andysorchids.com

June 19, 2026

Orchid Odyssey
San Diego Zoo
sandiegozoo.org

June 20, 2026

Orchid Digest Speaker's Day
orchiddigest.org

July 1, 2026

POS General Meeting
New Location and Time
Senior Center, 5-8 PM
799 Pine Ave,
Carlsbad, 92008
palomarorchid.org

July 4, 2026

SDCOS Species Meeting
David Vandenbroek
4davidv@gmail.com

July 7, 2026

AOS Orchid Judging
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
aos.org

SDCOS General Meeting
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
sdorchids.com

July 17, 2026

Orchid Odyssey
San Diego Zoo
sandiegozoo.org

July 17-19, 2026

Cal Orchid Summer Hummer and *Neofinetia falcata* Seminar
calorchid.com



Snacks & Refreshments

This month, all members with last names beginning **M through Z** will share at break time! Please do not bring snacks that produce crumbs such as cookies, pies, baked goods. Single bite snacks are OK or fruit slices, etc.

We appreciate everyone's effort in supplying our meeting with goodies. It makes for a great meeting all around!

Thank you!

Officers of the 2026 POS

The following individuals were unanimously approved for the 2026 Board by members attending our Annual Meeting on November 5th. The new board was inducted at the Holiday Dinner on December 3.

2026 POS Officers:

- Co-Presidents: Alex Nadzan and Barry Reder
- 1st VP Programs: Suzi Sandore
- 2nd VP Opportunity Table: Jerry Spahn and Jim Anderson
- 3rd VP Membership: Trudy Ibbetson
- Secretary: Pearl Crosier
- Treasurer: Vidya Sirsi and Ed Staley
- 1st Year Trustees: Ed Danielewicz, Linda Ivor, and Barbara McCubbin
- 2nd Year Trustees: Judy Dyer, Steve Redmond, and Bill Wong
- Publicity: **Open Position**
- Newsletter Editor: Barry Reder
- Webmaster: Helge Weissig and **Assistant**
- Facebook Editor: Debra Funakoshi

We encourage our members to step up and volunteer for additional positions highlighted above in **bold**. We encourage individuals to consider working in a supportive capacity so the member can get an idea of what is involved and, hopefully, take over the responsibility in future years.

Publicity: Seeking someone to promote our society and announce upcoming events to the public by providing information to established newspapers and publications on our monthly POS programs and our annual fundraising sales.

Webmaster Assistant: Helge Weissig has been responsible for publishing our newsletter and managing our website for quite some time. He could use someone with computer and internet skills to assist him with maintaining the website. Please contact Alex or Barry if you would like to volunteer for any of these positions.