



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

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Speaker's Info

David Haelterman on 'The Genus *Maxillaria* in Colombia'



Our Zoom meeting on Tuesday, March 2 at 7:30 pm will feature David Haelterman speaking on *Maxillarias from Colombia*. David has lived in Cali, Columbia for 6 years, exploring the region as an orchid enthusiast and educator. Cali is a major metropolis, sitting in the Valle del Cauca, just to the East of the Farallones de Cauda, the very bio-diverse coastal mountain range.

He worked as an agronomist in his native Belgium, developing urban agriculture projects with schools and encouraging biodiversity through ecologically productive small-scale parcels. In Colombia, he explores the mountains, leads tours, gives lectures, and photographs especially the orchids of the region. Looking at his photo records, he seems to spend most of his time in the mountains.

In parallel to these professional activities, he has been passionate about orchids for more than 25 years, growing many genera such as *Cattleya*, *Masdevallia*, *Restrepia*, *Odontoglossum*, *Kefersteinia*, *Pescatoria*, *Eriopsis*, *Stanhopea* and allied, as well

as *Maxillaria*, on which he is particularly specialized. His center of interest is especially focused on orchid taxonomy, their biogeography and their conservation in the wild.

He has a presence on Facebook with many photographs, and his photography is also accessible on [Flickr](#).



Maxillaria crispiloba, described by Pascal Sauvétre in 2012 but often confused and sold as *Maxillaria fucata* from which it is clearly different. The same species but two color varieties. Colombia



Probably the first registration of the magnificent *Maxillaria platyloba* *in situ* for Valle del Cauca department. One of my preferred species in Colombia, from cold climate around 2800 m asl.



Huge *Maxillaria luteograndiflora* plant (orchid) flowering *in situ* during a botanical and ornithological exploration in Farallones de Cali National Park, Valle del Cauca department, Colombia.



Maxillaria sanguinea
(Debby Halliday's plant)



Maxillaria tonsbergii
'Smokey'

Zoom Culture Class, Wednesday, March 3, 7:30 pm

Speaker: Debby Halliday on 'Opportunity Knocks! San Diego Botanic Garden Orchid Show'

The San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas is staging an orchid exhibition in their new [Conservatory](#) from Friday, April 2 through Sunday, May 2. They have invited us to participate. With no orchid shows on the horizon this spring, the SDCOS board members, as well as Alex and Bill of POS, agreed that this sounds like a fun chance to share our orchids with the public again.

The Conservatory is a beautiful, state-of-the-art greenhouse, with a cement floor, humidity control, shading, ventilation and security (see pics below). The exhibition runs for a month, but we will have an opportunity every Tuesday to change out the plants as necessary. The garden staff will be designing and installing the exhibition, so we will just be lending our plants.

For the topic of our class on Wednesday, Debby will be going over the details of participating in this show with anyone who is interested. She also will be offering tips on grooming and prepping your plants to look their very best. You do not need to be an expert to participate. If you expect to have one plant or many plants, we would love to have you participate. Sharing our beauties with the world is one of the great pleasures of orchid growing. Let's take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!



President's Message

Hello POS Members and Friends,

We hope that all of our members and friends are healthy and safe. It's been a year or more since the COVID pandemic disrupted our lives. Few of us imagined the magnitude of the impact and it isn't over yet. The good news is that more of us have received the vaccine(s) and distribution of the medication is progressing.

Slowly but surely, more and more restaurants and businesses, parks, museums are beginning to open up. Restrictions are being lifted or relaxed. Optimistically, we may be closer to normal by the end of summer.

Both of us miss seeing our members and friends and listening to the guest speakers in person. We miss seeing your beautiful orchids at the meetings and seeing your smiling faces. The Zoom meetings are good but do not replicate the live meetings and dialogue with and between members. It seems like a stretch still, but with some luck, we may be able to meet before year-end.

Last month we had an excellent speaker, Courtney Hackney, who talked about the major lineages found in today's *Cattleya* hybrids. A lot of this information is found in his excellent book, "American *Cattleyas*". This is the first time we have had him speak to our group and this was possible because of the Zoom sessions, albeit a 3-hour time differential for our speaker.

We also had an excellent culture class from Kay Klausung of the San Diego County Orchid Society. Kay gave in in-depth discussion about

thrips and other pests. We learned that thrips is one of the most difficult pests to control and many of the available chemicals are not that effective at eradicating it.

Our speaker for March is David Haelterman from Columbia who will be talking on 'The Genus *Maxillaria*'. Our culture class will be conducted by Debby Halliday who will discuss an opportunity with the San Diego Botanical Garden to display our orchids in their new Conservatory in conjunction with their Grand Opening during the month of April. (see page 3). Our joint Zoom meetings will be held on Tuesday, March 2, followed by the culture class on Wednesday, March 3, both starting at 7:30 pm.

We are still not aware of any orchid shows being planned for 2021, but local nurseries will continue to sponsor on-line sales and, in some cases, in person open houses. We will identify those events as they are announced.

One of the unforeseen benefits of the COVID lock down is that we have more time to take care of and enjoy our orchid collections. We don't have any excuse for not repotting or taking care of our orchids. Spring is one of the best seasons of the year to enjoy beautiful blooms and to repot and divide orchids. Be sure to read the section of the newsletter that covers what we should be doing during this time of the year (see page 6).

Some of us are having more difficulty finding orchid pots at local stores. Some of the more popular sizes such as the 5x5 or 6x5s are hard to find. They are available from on-line sources but

are more expensive because of the shipping and handling costs. POS has had discussions with Yamada Company regarding the supply of these pots. Yamada is working with the manufactures/distributors of these pots and intends to place a large order to fulfill the needs of its customers. When they become available, they will include them in their annual sale. For those of you not familiar with Yamada Company, they are a local store in Gardena, CA that provides many of the essential products we use such as various orchid media, fertilizer, pots, plant labels, tools, etc. We will let you know more as that information is available.

As mentioned in the previous newsletters, we encourage our member to send in your annual membership renewal via mail or on-line using the POS website. Many of you have yet to renew, so please make the effort to support POS. If we are able to have live meetings later this year, we will need funds to cover the rental and speaker fees and other associated meeting expenses. Mail renewals to POS, P.O. Box 130774, Carlsbad CA 92013 or renew online.

As always, we hope our members and friends remain healthy, upbeat and optimistic about the future. 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.

TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2021

We are asking all of our members to renew their membership for 2021 at this time, since this is our only source of income during the pandemic. We need these resources to continue to pay for our Zoom speakers, newsletter mailings and storage fees in order to remain a viable organization. Please mail your renewal membership (\$25 individual, \$30 household) to the POS mailing address (Palomar Orchid Society, P.O. Box 130774, Carlsbad CA 92013) or contact our membership chairperson, Trudy Ibbetson at (trudygro@aol.com). You also may renew and pay directly online on our [website](#), which also has membership forms for new members.

2021 POS Officers

Co-President: Alex Nadzan & Bill Wong

Co-1st Vice President/Programs: Tom Wisniewski & Alex Nadzan

2nd Vice President/Raffle: Jerry Spahn & Jim Anderson

3rd Vice President/Membership: Trudy Ibbetson

Secretary: Open Position

Treasurer: Vidya Sirsi

1st Year Trustees: Judy Dyer, Debra Funakoshi & Stewart Walton

2nd Year Trustees: Steve Redmond, Suzi Sandore and Cher Whelan

Newsletter Editor: Alex Nadzan (temporary)

Website Editor & Publicity: Helge Weissig

Facebook Editor: Debra Funakoshi

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(Instagram)

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 solution 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 re-positioning 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](#)

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.

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.orquideas.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.

Ken Campbell's Photo



Pot. Irene Fell



Lc. Love Knot 'Seto'



Lc. Love Knot var coerulea



Pot. Smiley Kiss



Blc. Husky Boy



Lc. Mini Purple

Steve Redmond's Photos



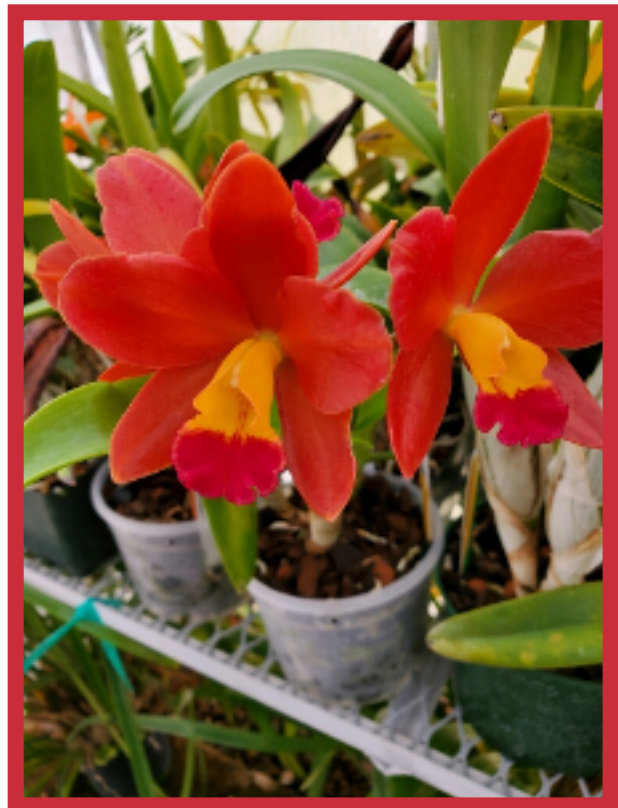
Blc. Kaboom



**C. Claesiana (C. intermedia
var aquinii x C. loddigesii)**



**Den. Golden Vista 'SVO' x Den.
Dunokala 'Tuyet' AM/AOS and
Den. Green Lantern 'Red Carpet'**



**Pot. Burana Angel 'SVO #1' HCC/AOS
X C. Chocolate Drop 'SVO' AM/AOS**



Rlc. Golf Green



**Rlc. Kalim Smith's Kahelelani
'Volcano Queen'**



**L. Santa Barbara Sunset
'Showtime' HCC/AOS**



**Slc. Angel's Fantasy 'Solar Flare'
FCC/AOS X Pot. Mem. Jim Nickou
'James ' HCC/AOS**

Bill Wong's Photos



Blc. Tropical Upgrade



Den. speciosum var. grandiflora

Jerry Spencer's Photos



Rhy. giganteas



Cym. Dosido 'Freckleface' HCC/AOS



Cym. Dr. Len 'Geyserland'



Cym. Len Southward x Pepperpuss



Cym. Mad Hatter



Cym. Mary Green



Cym. Pure Sarah 'Çarolyn'



Cym. Red Beauty 'Évening Star'



Cym. Street Hawk 'Çape Kidnapper''



Cym. Tanto's Targer 'Tatsue'



Cym. Valley Olympic 'Rose'



D. Hilda Poxon



D. Ruth Reinhold

Alex Nadzan's Photos



Lc. Higher Ground 'Masterpiece' x self



Blc. Cherry Suisse 'Kauai' HCC/AOS



Bonatea speciosa 'Green Egret' FCC/AOS



Cym. Radiant Ruby



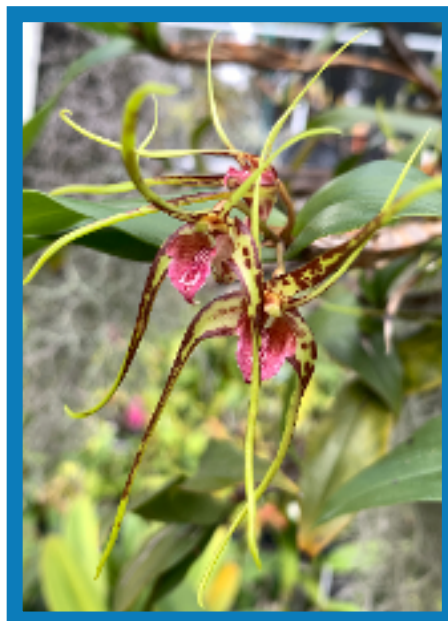
**Cym. Canterbury 'Emma'
HCC/AOS**



**AMN-237E Blc. San Diego Hot Spots
x C. Horace 'Maxima'**



SVO2387 Den. Lisa Turner



**SVO5302A Den. tetragonum
(Big Lip x Dark Red')**



Cym. Samuari Hee-Haw with close up

