



# 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**

**February 2025**



### Attending the February Meeting via Zoom

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

### President's Message

President's message with pics of last months AOS Judging Outreach Meeting.

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### Calendar of Events

Exotic Plant and Orchid Show in February and the Santa Barbara Intl. Orchid Show in March

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### AOS JUDGING

Three awards from the AOS Outreach Judging Program at our January Monthly Meeting.

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**Monthly Meeting Wednesday February 5, 2025 4:00 PM**

## "Cynoches, Mormodes, Catasetums - Recent Trends"

We are pleased to host one of our favorite and well-known speakers, Fred Clarke. Fred's talk will focus on the amazing world of Catasetinae. The talk entitled 'Cynoches, Mormodes, Catasetums - Recent Trends' will provide a detailed look at the best of today's breeding and new directions hybrids are taking including the making of Fredclarkeara After Dark. Finally, Fred will cover the best practices for growing these remarkable plants.

Cynoches, Mormodes, and Catasetums are three related genera from the Tribe Cymbidieae. Individually, each has been considered an orchid oddity, or "botanical", of interest mainly to the seriously addicted enthusiast. These plants have a brief deciduous period in winter, when the plants need a definite dry rest period bordering on neglect. These robust orchids are native to lowland tropical forests in Central and South America and are usually grown in warm or intermediate conditions. Commercially, Catasetum, Cynoches (or 'Swan' orchids) and Mormodes (or 'Goblin' orchids) have occupied a small market niche on the edge of a sea of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, and Dendrobiums. Until recently, they have not attracted much attention from hybridizers, but in the past several years some spectacular hybrids have been produced, receiving great acclaim and an increasingly large collection of awards from the American Orchid Society.

Fred is a long time, generous supporter and life member of the Palomar Orchid Society. He has been growing orchids since 1977 and has been hybridizing for 35 of those years. With over 30 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery, Sunset Valley Orchids, located in Vista, California, just north of San Diego. His nursery's [website](#) has considerable information on plants for sale and many beautiful pics of his award winning orchids.



**Fred Clarke - SVO**

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Fred is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Fred's pioneering work in *Catasetinae* hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids receiving over 100 AOS awards. The grex, *Fredclarkeara After Dark*, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed", has received a total of 61 awards worldwide, including eight FCC's, six AM's and the coveted AOS Award of Distinction. Fred recently received the Excellence in Hybridizing Award for *Catasetum Alliance Hybrids* by the American Orchid Society at their Fall 2016 meeting at the Huntington. Fred is also an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region as well as a passionate fisherman.

Fred will be supplying this month's Opportunity Table.

**Snacks & Refreshments**  
 This month, all members with last names beginning **A through L** will share at break time!  
 We appreciate everyone's effort in supplying our meeting with goodies. It makes for a great meeting all around!

## President's Message

Greetings to our POS Members and Friends,

Our first meeting of the year was a big success with Phyllis Prestia, Head Judge of the Southern CA Judging Section, presiding over an AOS Judging Outreach Program for our society. Several other AOS judges and judge trainees also participated in the session, including Paul Tuskes, Tim Culbertson, Fred Clarke, Arnold Gum, Jane Wesley Brooks, and Bill Loy. They gave us background on what is involved in judging orchids then selected three orchids for AOS judging by going through the process and soliciting participation from members in the audience. Based on the positive comments received at the end of the session, it proved to be a very fun, educational and valuable experience for our members who now have a better idea of the AOS judging process. The three orchids awarded from the session are highlighted in the awards section on page 6 of this newsletter.



For February, we welcome back one of our most favorite speakers, Fred Clarke, who will speak on 'Cynoches, Mormodes, *Catasetums* - Recent Trends'. Fred is a renown expert in this class of orchids and has done pioneering work in developing novel hybrids including one of the blackest orchids known, *Fredclarkeara After Dark*. This is a talk not to be missed. More on Fred's background can be found on page one of this newsletter. Fred also will be providing this month's Opportunity Table.

Our March meeting will consist of a Culture Class focused on the repotting process and will be given by Alex Nadzan and Ed Danielewicz who will repot and divide multiple orchids of different sizes and answer your repotting questions. This is a very timely talk as most orchids will be putting out new roots, which is the optimal time to repot or divide them at the beginning of the growing season.

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Just a reminder for our members to renew your annual membership at the February meeting if you have not already done so. You also may renew online on our society's [website](#).

This winter has been an extremely challenging one due to the very dry conditions and the extremely high Santa Ana winds that have devastated areas of LA and have sparked some fires in our own areas. We feel for the extensive loss of homes and lives in LA and pray for their recovery from this very devastating event. It is also a warning for us in the San Diego area that it could easily happen here and residents should be prepared and ready to leave your homes should they become at risk.

These extreme conditions also have been a challenge for our outdoor orchid collections as the lack of rain, low humidity and cool weather requires us to water more frequently but not too frequently so our orchids can withstand the cold nights and cool winter days. Under these conditions, it is best to water sparingly and early in the day to allow plants to dry out before nightfall. Also, members need to watch out for pests and bacterial/fungal diseases and treat them early to avoid spreading throughout your collection. Please refer to the POS and AOS websites for further guidance in managing your plants during the winter months.

We trust our members and friends remain healthy, upbeat and optimistic about the future. Alex is always available to listen to your suggestions, questions and concerns. Please call him at 858-205-6789 or e-mail him at [anadzan@mac.com](mailto:anadzan@mac.com).

We look forward to seeing you next month.

Alex Nadzan



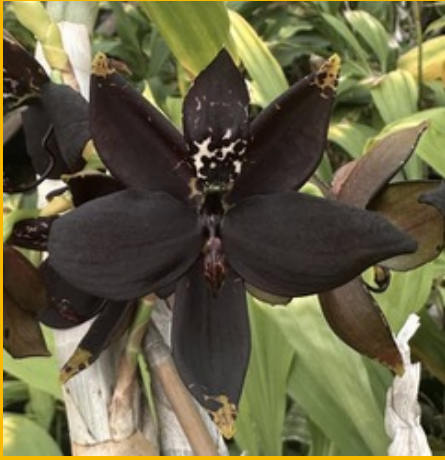
Fdk. Upgrade x Ctsm. Susan Fuchs



Morm. ignea x Morm. Aftermath) 'Orange'.



Ctsm. Orchidglade 'Davie Ranches' AMAOS



Cynoches The Grinch  
'Black Bird'



Morm. Wild Rainbow x Morm. Nitty-Gritty 'SVO'.

### 2025 POS Board Officers

- **Co-President:** Alex Nadzan and **Open Position**
- **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 **Assistant**
- **1st Year Trustees:** Judy Dyer, Trish Kaufman and Bill Wong
- **2nd Year Trustees:** Cecle Bird, Steve Redmond, and Stewart Walton.
- **Publicity:** Shelley Hardy
- **Newsletter Editor:** Barry Reder
- **Webmaster:** Helge Weissig and **Assistant**
- **Facebook Editor:** Debra Funakoshi

We want to encourage more of our members to step up and volunteer for additional positions **highlighted above in bold**. We ask 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. This is particularly desirable for the positions of Co-president, Treasurer and Webmaster. Many of the current individuals have served in their capacities for several years and it would be desirable to have others to share the responsibility.



Monn. Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft' FCC/AOS



Cats. Diana's Dots



*Cyc. cooperi*



## Upcoming Events

### February 1, 2025

SDCOS Species Meeting  
David Vandebroek  
[4davidv@gmail.com](mailto:4davidv@gmail.com)

### February 4, 2025

AOS Orchid Judging  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[aos.org](http://aos.org)

SDCOS General Meeting  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### February 5, 2025

POS General Meeting  
Gowland Meeting Room  
Dove Library, Carlsbad  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

### February 7-9, 2025

Newport Harbor OS  
Exotic Plant & Orchid Festival  
Westminister Mall  
Westminister, CA  
[nhosinfo.org](http://nhosinfo.org)

### February 21 2025

Orchid Odyssey  
San Diego Zoo  
[sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org)

### March 1, 2025

SDCOS Species Meeting  
David Vandebroek  
[4davidv@gmail.com](mailto:4davidv@gmail.com)

### March 4, 2025

AOS Orchid Judging  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[aos.org](http://aos.org)

SDCOS General Meeting  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### March 5, 2025

POS General Meeting  
Gowland Meeting Room  
Dove Library, Carlsbad  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

### March 7-9, 2025

Santa Barbara Intl. Orchid Show  
Earl Warren Show Grounds  
Santa Barbara, CA  
[sborchidshow.com](http://sborchidshow.com)

### March 18, 2025

Orchid Odyssey  
San Diego Zoo  
[sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org)

### March 21-23, 2025

Andy's Spring Open House  
Encinitas, CA  
[andysorchids.com](http://andysorchids.com)

### April 1, 2025

AOS Orchid Judging  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[aos.org](http://aos.org)

SDCOS General Meeting  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### April 2, 2025

POS General Meeting  
Gowland Meeting Room  
Dove Library, Carlsbad  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

### April 5, 2025

SDCOS Species Meeting  
David Vandebroek  
[4davidv@gmail.com](mailto:4davidv@gmail.com)

### April 18-20, 2024

SDCOS Spring Show in the Park  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

### April 18, 2025

Orchid Odyssey  
San Diego Zoo  
[sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org)

## Judging at the San Diego Judging Center

We conducted an AOA outreach judging for the Palomar Orchid Society in January.

Text by Phyllis Prestia, Ph.D.    Photos by Photos by Arnold Gum

There were three orchids awarded.

*Paph. dianthum f. album* 'O'side's Mem. JR.' HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Tim Culbertson

Awarded HCC, 77 points



*Cycnoides* John Naugle "SVO Leopard" FCC/AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke

Awarded FCC, 90 points



*Tsubotaara* Melinda Marie 'Blue Fairy' HCC/AOS

Exhibited by Alex Nadzan

Awarded HCC, 79 point





NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY  
presents

# EXOTIC PLANT & ORCHID FESTIVAL 2025

FRIDAY February 7 10 am - 8 pm  
SATURDAY February 8 10 am - 8 pm  
SUNDAY February 9 10 am - 6 pm

## WESTMINSTER MALL

1025 Westminster Mall, Westminster, CA 92683  
Free Admission & Parking  
<https://nhosinfo.org/>



77th Santa Barbara  
INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

# EXOTIC GARDENS

March 7th-9th, 2025  
9AM-5PM  
EARL WARREN  
SHOWGROUNDS  
[sborchidshow.com](http://sborchidshow.com)

