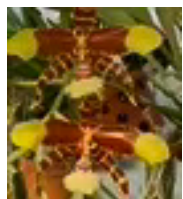




# POS News

*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.*



## **POS Officer Election**

*In November, we elected the society's officers for 2026*  
page 4

## **President's Message**

page 3-4

## **Holiday Party Photos**

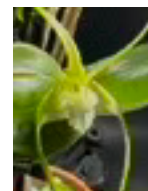
pages 5-6

## **Judging Report**

Pages 8

## **Calendar of Events**

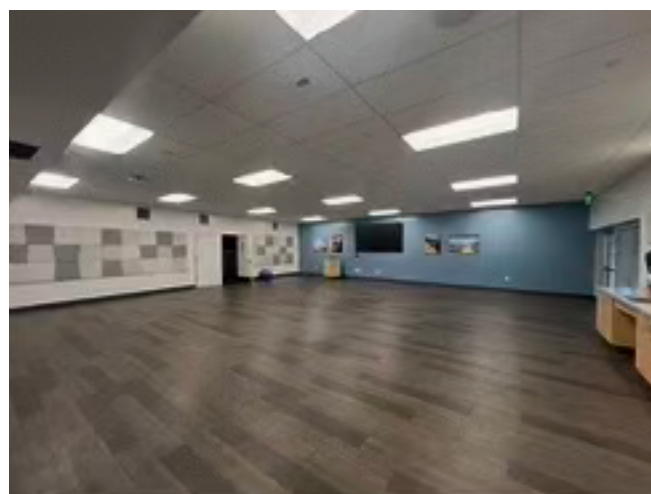
page 7



**We have moved!** Our new monthly meeting room is located at:  
3209 Harding Street, Carlsbad 92008 at the Pine Ave Community Center.

Activity room 108

The meeting time is unchanged- 4:00. The room is quite spacious and modern, with well lit parking.... more seating and table area. **Directions:** Take freeway 5 to Carlsbad Village Drive west. Make a left onto Harding St. The parking lot is on the right just past Pine Ave.



## Brandon Tam on 'Wild Orchids of Ecuador'



As we start the New Year, we are excited to welcome back Brandon Tam, who will be sharing his talk on "Wild Orchids of Ecuador" on Wednesday, January 7 at 4 pm. This will be the first talk of the year in the Pine Ave Community Center, Room 108, located at 3209 Harding St., Carlsbad, 92008. Brandon's talk includes highlights from his adventures searching for orchids in Ecuador, with a focus of finding *Selenipedium aequinoctiale*. Knowing Brandon, he will also be sure to thoroughly cover the food he enjoyed eating in Ecuador as well.

Brandon is a shared speaker with the San Diego Orchid Society and will be speaking on Stanhopeas at their meeting on Tuesday, January 6 starting at 6:30 pm in Balboa Park (for Zoom link contact Alex Nadzan or Barry Reder for details).

Brandon Tam is the Associate Curator of the Orchid Collection at The Huntington and oversees one of the largest orchid collections in the United States and one of the most diverse species collections in the world, which has grown from 2,000 to over 10,000 plants in the past decade. He manages over 3,600 unique varieties, representing 280 genera, 2,200 hybrids, and 1,500 species. Brandon is responsible for the day-to-day curatorial operations, including horticultural operations, orchid acquisitions, propagation, conservation, and supervision of over 40 orchid volunteers. He is also tasked with coordinating numerous public and educational events, such as orchid shows, judging, and conferences. Brandon began managing the collection when he was 16 and has been with The Huntington for over 16 years.

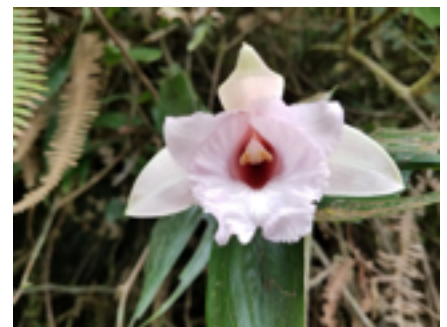
This month's opportunity table will be provided by Ruben Colmenares who grows his own species and hybrids at the SVO greenhouses.



Brandon with *Phragmipedium besseae*



Ecuador terrain



*Sobralia decora*



*Elleanthus capitatus*

*Bulbophyllum beccarii*



## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

JANUARY 2026

A very Happy New Year to all our Members and Friends. We hope all of you had a safe and Happy Holiday we wish you all the best in the New Year.

Our society held our annual holiday dinner on December 3rd at the New China Gourmet Restaurant in Encinitas. The restaurant is run by the Chin family and the food was equal of quality of last year's fare from Chin's Gourmet. Aside from the restaurant's glitch in starting serving the meal, we enjoyed excellent Chinese food along with scrumptious desserts provided by some of our members. In addition, attendees received a blooming orchid from the Hawaiian Nursery 808 Orchids plus a very nice added bonus of a seedling cattleya complements of Fred Clarke of SVO, who attended the dinner as our society's guest. Many thanks to Shelley and Bill Wong who organized the dinner and selected the menu. Following the dinner, we inducted the 2026 board members who were in attendance and a fun time was had by all as evidenced from the pics taken at the event (See pgs 6-7). Please note that Dr. Barry Reder is Co-president this year with Alex. Barry will be taking over some of the presidential responsibilities for the society and will provide much needed input to our society's activities.

2025 was a productive year for our society with the addition of several new members who benefited from our diverse speakers and topics covered over the year, some of which were jointly supported with our sister society, the San Diego County Orchid Society. Many of our members volunteered for our two successful fundraising events and also participated in exhibiting plants at the World of Orchids event at the San Diego Botanic Garden as well as some of the shows held by our sister society in Balboa Park.

For the November meeting, we were treated to a talk by Carol Beule who spoke on "The Essence of Japan and Fuukiran: A Country of Gardeners, Perfectionists and Tradition". Carol has visited Japan many times and was able to highlight the artistic side of Japanese history and culture surrounding Fuukiran or *Neofinetia falcata*, the native orchid of Japan. She also discussed the Japanese judging system and reviewed cultural aspects of growing these very interesting orchids.

Looking forward to the New Year, Suzi Sandore has scheduled a number of exciting orchid speakers starting in January with Brandon Tam from the Huntington Gardens who will share with us his travels to Ecuador in the search of rare orchids. Brandon is an excellent speaker and one of our youngest stars of the orchid world. His orchid knowledge is extensive and his talk is not to be missed. Other speakers scheduled thus far are Peter Lin in February and Ron Parsons in March, with our April meeting being devoted to a 'to be determined' topic on Orchid Culture. Members are welcome to offer suggestions for cultural topics to Suzi Sandore, Barry Reder or Alex Nadzan at the January or February meetings or by email or text. We definitely want your input on his matter.

In view of having a larger meeting facility, we will reinstitute the '**Silent Auction Table**' where members can sell plants and related items at our meetings. The society will retain 15% of the proceeds and go through Jerry Spahn and Jim Anderson who will handle the monies and provide members their share at the end of the meeting. Please be considerate in not overwhelming them especially at the first meeting after not having this opportunity for a couple of years.

We would like to remind all our members to renew their memberships at your earliest convenience. Our fees have remained the same as last year which is \$30 for individuals and \$35 for family memberships. You may pay at our meetings or online on our [POS website](#). As initiated previously, late registrations after April will incur a \$5 increase if not paid in a timely manner.

Our membership fees hardly cover our yearly expenses so we will continue to have at least two fundraisers in 2026. Members also are encouraged to make a donation before years end to the society if you are able to do so. It will go a long way to supplement our yearly expenses. We want to remind our members that POS is a 501 (3)(c) Charitable Organization and donations are allowable tax deductions as provided by the federal tax code so please consider POS for your 2025 charitable donations. Donations can be made on our website as shown above for membership.

This winter we have received some much needed rain with cooler weather so we do not need to water and fertilize our orchids as frequently. If you grow outside watch for fungal and bacterial infections and treat accordingly. This is the beginning of cymbidium blooming season so look for emergence of spikes and stake them for optimal blooms.

As mentioned in last month's Newsletter, additional information on growing tips during the winter season can be found on our own [website](#) for seasonal tips on caring for your collections as well as the [AOS website](#) for additional inputs on seasonal orchid care for your plants. Another excellent source of information on essentially all aspects of orchid growing and care, including dealing with pests and diseases, can be found on the [St. Augustine Orchid Society website](#). Sue Bottom, who is an excellent orchid grower and writer for the AOS Orchids Magazine, has numerous articles on a variety of topics of interest to orchid growers



available on the website. It is one of Alex's 'Go To' sources for excellent orchid information.

Our Orchid Society exists to enable us to help each other with our orchid growing. To this end, **please** tell us what type of orchid(s) you grow presently, if you are experiencing any growing problems, and what type of orchids you would like to have offered on the opportunity table. As stated above, any input on subjects for future speakers and culture meeting topics would also be appropriate and appreciated.

We trust our members and friends remain healthy, upbeat and positive about our society and the future. Alex and Barry are always available to listen to your suggestions, questions and concerns. Please call, text or email Alex at 858-205-6789 or [anadzan@mac.com](mailto:anadzan@mac.com) or Barry Reder at 760-419-3388 or [b.reder@sbcglobal.net](mailto:b.reder@sbcglobal.net)

**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!

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## Slate of Officers for 2026 POS Board

*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.

## Photos from our POS Holiday Dinner on December 3

(Photos by Debra Funakoshi unless otherwise indicated)



**POS Board 2026:** Steve Redmond, Bill Wong, Linda Ivor, Barbara McCubbin, Pearl Croiser, Trudy Ibbetson, Barry Reder, Debra Funakoshi, Judy Dyer, Jerry Spahn, and Alex Nadzan (absent: Jim Anderson, Ed Danielewicz, Suzi Sandore, Vidya Sirsi, Ed Staley and Helge Weissig)



Greg and Trudy Ibbetson



Iso Zehner, Pearl Crosier, and Judy Dyer





Barbara McCubbin  
and John Sirutis



Daniel Bellem, Lisa Humphreys and Phyllis Prestia



Ana Seitz, Kathie Nadzan, Iso Zehner, Ceclie Bird, Linda  
Lux, Carol Koskela, and Janette Reder  
(photo by Stewart Walton)

# Upcoming Events

**January 3, 2026**

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

**January 6, 2026**

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)

**January 7, 2026**

POS General Meeting  
**New Location**  
Pine Avenue Community Center  
3209 Harding Street  
Carlsbad, 92008  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

**January 16, 2026**

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

**February 3, 2026**

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 4, 2026**

POS General Meeting  
**New Location**  
Pine Avenue Community Center  
3209 Harding Street  
Carlsbad, 92008  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

**February 7, 2026**

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

**February 20, 2026**

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

**March 3, 2026**

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 4, 2026**

POS General Meeting  
**New Location**  
Pine Avenue Community Center  
3209 Harding Street  
Carlsbad, 92008  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

**March 7, 2026**

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

**March 13-15, 2026**

Andy;s Orchids  
Spring Open House, 10am-4pm  
Encinitas, CA  
[andysorchids.com](http://andysorchids.com)

**March 20-22, 2026**

Santa Barbara Intl. Orchid Show & Sale  
Santa Barbara, CA  
[sborchidshow.com](http://sborchidshow.com)

**March 20, 2026**

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

**April 1, 2026**

POS General Meeting  
**New Location**  
Pine Avenue Community Center  
3209 Harding Street  
Carlsbad, 92008  
[palomarorchid.org](http://palomarorchid.org)

**April 4, 2026**

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

**April 7, 2026**

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 17-19 2026**

SDCOS Spring Show & Sale  
Casa de Prado, Balboa Park,  
[sdorchids.com](http://sdorchids.com)

**April 17, 2026**

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

## Judging at the San Diego Judging Center (Casa del Prado, Balboa Park), December 2, 2025

There were 7 orchids presented for judging. Two (2) were awarded.

*Text and photos by Jeanie Anderson*



### *Paphiopedilum villosum v. alba*

**'O'Side's Emerald' AM/AOS**

**Exhibited by Tim Culbertson**

**Awarded Award of Merit, 81 points**

### *Paphiopedilum fairrieae*

**'O'Side's Majestic' AM/AOS**

**Exhibited by Tim Culbertson**

**Awarded Award of Merit, 80 points**

