



**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 258:
November 2020**

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Bulbophyllum lasiochilum
Betty Kelepecz

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President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

I hope all of you enjoyed Lou Jost's lecture as much as I did. It was great to take advantage of our new virtual format and welcome a speaker from Ecuador. We'll continue to bring in outsiders from time to time.

As you may be aware, the park is finally addressing the long-standing sewer problems afflicting the Casa del Prado. The bad news is that our meeting room may be closed well into next year. With the continuing spread of the Corona virus, we would be approaching meeting in person very cautiously in any case. Zoom seems to be where we need to stay for now. Thank you all for your support and understanding!

I have heard back from Rosario Braga with a link to the OrquidaRio orchid show. We were able to submit over 80 pictures and they were very impressed. Please see my article with the links and instructions for making your way through the Portuguese to view this very lovely show.

Please continue to send me your images for the plant forum. We had so many in October that I had to show some of the plants after the main speaker. However, most people stayed to appreciate the beauty of what everyone is growing. To keep it fair, I used up to three plants from each submission before the speaker and showed the rest after. I love the plant forum. Keep sending me your pictures!

Here again is what I need. Just attach your images to email and send them to president@sdorchids.com along with the information below. Only 4 plants per person please.

Plant Name

Species or Hybrid

If Hybrid - Parentage if you know it.

If Species - What country is it from?

How you grow it – Greenhouse, Shadehouse, Balcony, Etc.

Any comments

Please have your pictures to me by tomorrow, Sunday, Nov 1, latest.

Our meeting falls on election day. Don't forget to vote!

Keep growing and enjoying your beautiful plants. They are an enduring bit of normalcy in these difficult times.



Miltoniopsis No ID
Debby Halliday

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General Meeting,
November 3, 7:30 PM via Zoom
Ken Jacobsen - *Oncidium crispum* group:
History, Membership, and Culture
Text by Stewart Walton, 1st VP

At our general meeting this month, we are fortunate to have Ken Jacobsen talk to us about *Oncidium*s. The *Oncidium*/*Odontoglossum* swarm has recently undergone many changes in nomenclature, even if the plants themselves have not changed. Jay Pfahl (orchidspecies.com) includes this note under the listing for *Oncidium enderianum*: “The *O. crispum* complex includes *O. praetextum*, *O. curtum*, *O. enderianum* and *O. gravesianum* and all are now referenced as synonyms of *Oncidium crispum*. I keep them separate as they have been well established as separate species for many years.”

This talk will cover the group of orchids formerly known as the *Oncidium crispum* group, and hybrids made from these plants. In addition to the individual species and the direct descendants of those species, there will be more complex hybrids discussed. A fair amount of time will be spent discussing culture, and how these plants can be grown successfully in the California coastal areas.

A list of all the plants mentioned in this talk will be available on-line in advance of the meeting.

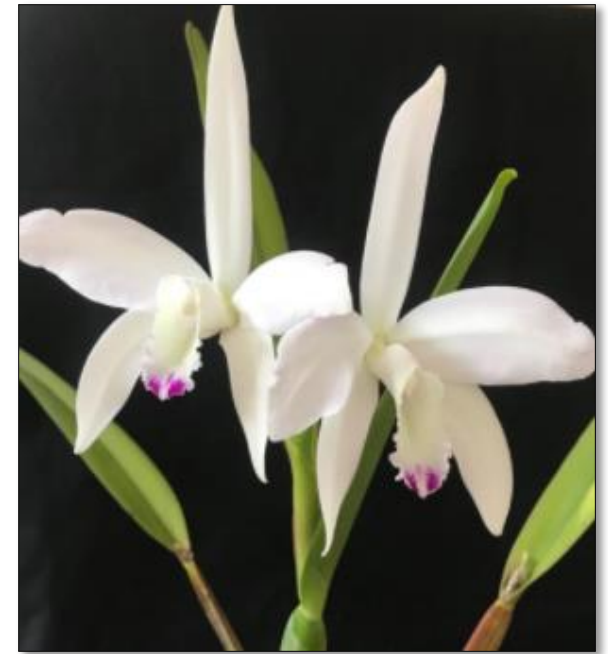
Ken was first introduced to orchids by his uncle in the 1960's and has been growing orchids for well over 50 years. His collection includes *Cymbidiums*, *Oncidiums*, *Odontoglossums*, *Lycastes*, *Cattleyas*,

Laelias, *Masdevallias* and several other genera. Ken and his wife, Amy, enjoy travelling to all areas of the world where orchids are grown, visiting the local growers, and seeing various species in the wild. Together, Amy and Ken have over 7000 orchids.

Ken is a judge in the AOS judging program and the CSA judging program and is currently an AOS trustee. Amy is a judge in the AOS judging program.



Oncidium crispum



L. perrinii (*L. perrinii* 'Fantasia'
x *L. perrinii* f. *delicata* 'AM')
Pam Peters



Pseudolaelia irwiniana
Peter Tobias



Laelia perrinii (*delicata* x *semi-*
alba)
Tom Biggart



Pteroceras (*Brachypeza*)
Semiteretifolia
Roberta Fox

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Culture Class

November 4th, at 7:30 PM via Zoom

John Oswalt: Water Purity and Reverse Osmosis

Text by Stewart Walton, 1st VP

In growing orchids, we quickly learn about their native habitats and how we can approximate our plants' needs, including water. John Oswalt will talk about using Reverse Osmosis filtering to make nearly pure water, and then how to add nutrients and buffering agents to come close to the water our plants see in the wild. He will cover the mechanics of RO, how to design a system for your collection, and then how to use it to grow healthy plants.

John is a native San Diegan and began growing orchids over 50 years ago when he was in high school. After a 40-year hiatus, he embraced his hobby again in a big way. John grew a collection of orchids in Atlantic Beach, Florida and then in 2016 moved his collection back to San Diego/La Mesa. He was a member of the Jacksonville Orchid Society and active in the St. Augustine Orchid Society. John is a past 2nd VP of the San Diego County Orchid Society. John has a 12' x 22' temperature and humidity-controlled greenhouse and an outdoor 60% shade pergola at his home in La Mesa. He grows both potted and mounted species and hybrids of all types. John built his first R/O water system three years ago and has updated and improved it since then. He will share his practical lessons learned from his experience.

Orquidario Spring Orchid Show

Text by Debby Halliday, President

The Orquidario spring orchid show is up on the internet. We sent in 86 images from 23 different members. Thank you all very much for participating. Here is a note from Rosario Braga who organized the show.

“Thank you very much for the enormous contribution of the SDCOS to Orquidario's Spring Show. The beautiful photos sent by many members of the SDCOS enriched our show. Your plants are so special for us that one of Scott's [McGregor] was chosen to publicize our show on Rio's largest newspaper.”

The chosen plant was *Eulophia speciosa*, a fabulous yellow flower, which he initially received as a tuber from Roberta Fox.



Here is the link to view the show: www.orquidario.org/EXPO_VIRTUAL_SET2020/index.htm

Once you are there, it is a little daunting to find your way around.

Click on the black arrow to move to the next page. If you understand Spanish, you'll get something out of Rosario's welcome video. I enjoyed it. Do have a look at the Welcome Letter, it is in English and very nice.

The next arrow takes you to Programacao, which is of course the program. Click on Expositores, for the exhibitor's page. Here you have a choice of Orquidarios (vendors), or Associacoes (societies). Click on the picture itself to move to the next page.

Clicking on societies brings you to a page with the logos of various clubs. Click on the logo to get to the plants. Once you are on the plant page, the photos are organized by grower, which is nice. To see a larger image, just click on any picture. The arrow will get you back.

There are also links at the bottom of the main pages to help you move around to other areas. I hope you will visit the site and enjoy the show!

From the Membership Desk
Text by Bob Clark, Membership Chair

Please welcome our newest members – Sharon Johnson and Reena Kaplowitz.

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Trading Orchids

Text by Bruce Berg

Some of my favorite orchids are ones that I've gotten by either trading with other members or as gifts from friends in the society. This plant is a *Prosthechea radiatum* that Dave Hoffmaster gave me as a two pseudo starter when he was dividing and repotting his mother plant. While researching this plant on OrchidWiz for the correct spelling, I learned that it also has blooms that are identical to my plant which is registered as *Epi radiatum*. It also has a very nice fruity fragrance.



Every time these gifted plants bloom, or I look at them I think of the person who gave me the plant. I also think of them when I take a plant into a meeting to brag about it at the member tables or enter it at one of our shows.

I have traded several nice plants with Dave and Patty Hoffmaster over the years, including a nice *Epicattleya* Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower'.

Another of my favorites is *Brassavola Nodosa*, which I traded with Debby Halliday for my *Ansellia africana* in addition to several other beautiful orchids over the years.



After one of our society meetings, I gave a paph that I won at the opportunity table to Cheryl Adams. I think she won an AOS award for the plant when it bloomed. I've given several plants to other members from opportunity table winnings. It makes me feel good when they come up to me and show me photos of their plants and flowers and I can have a discussion on how well they are doing with their growing their plants.

So, when you need to repot, save one old division and when it is repotted and looking nice (blooming) give it to one of our members and ask them if they have anything to trade? You'll probably make a new friend and have something in common to discuss.

PS: I've got a lot of plants that need to go so I can make room for wintering over my warm-loving ones inside the greenhouse.

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Visit our website:

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Your membership supports our plant and animal collections and includes a monthly visit to our Orchid Odyssey on the third Friday of each month from 10am until 2pm.

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SDCOS Conservation Grant Awardees 2020

Text by Ron Kaufmann, Conservation Committee Chair

The SDCOS Conservation Committee met on October 5 to evaluate applications from a number of people and organizations. After careful consideration, the Committee recommended the following two grants for funding. Both of these recommendations were approved by the SDCOS board on October 8.

A vote of the membership is required for all society expenditures in excess of \$750, and a motion to approve these two awards will be made at the monthly General Meeting on Tuesday, November 3. If you have any questions about these applications or the review or approval process, please contact Ron Kaufmann (rkaufmann@gmail.com) by **Monday, November 2.**

1. *Conservation of Orchids on Private Land: Developing Orchid Friendly Tourism in Idukki District, Kerala.* Submitted by Jis Sebastian, Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil Nadu, India. Kerala includes a portion of the Western Ghats, a region with spectacular geographic features and rich orchid diversity, including many endemic species. Tourism is one of the most important sources of revenue for Kerala, and forests in this state have been exposed to large-scale exploitation for many years. Over 20% of Kerala is included within protected areas, but there is considerable biodiversity on private land as well. Conservation of this habitat is more likely when the landscape

provides a livelihood for the landowner. To encourage this practice, a sustainable community conservation model centered on orchids will be implemented. This model encourages maintenance of orchids in a native species woodland, conserving the orchids as well as the complex tropical forest in which the orchids thrive. This project will be conducted in Idukki, the most popular district for tourism in Kerala. Local homestays will participate in a program to develop tourism that meets Global Sustainable Tourism Council standards. Successful homestays will receive a green certification of their property. If successful, this model can be extended to other parts of Kerala. Total amount recommended = \$3,500

2. *Utilizing Citizen Science to Restore Orchid Biodiversity at The Ridges Sanctuary in Bailey's Harbor, Wisconsin.* Submitted by Matt Peter, The Ridges Sanctuary, Wisconsin. The Ridges Sanctuary, Inc. is the oldest private land trust in the state of Wisconsin and has been involved with orchid conservation since its beginnings in 1937. Many of the orchid species at The Ridges, and throughout Door County, have experienced significant declines in recent years due to habitat change, land management activities, unauthorized collection, and overgrazing. Conservation initiatives at The Ridges are designed to gather information on the distribution and biology of the native orchid and determine best practices for propagation and restoration of these species. This project will build on the

work funded over the last two years by the SDCOS to study environmental conditions in areas with natural populations of the Ram's Head orchids, *Cypripedium arietinum*, in comparison to sites containing plants from the ongoing restoration program. The results will be used to inform future practices for restoration and conservation of orchids in this habitat. Total amount recommended = \$3,500

Note: The report submitted for the period covered by the first grant provided to The Ridges Sanctuary was considered by the Conservation Committee and the SDCOS board to be substandard. We are asking the membership to approve this award conditionally, pending receipt of a more acceptable report. If the membership provides conditional approval, the Conservation Committee chair will contact the submitter and request a revised report. If the revised report is acceptable to the Conservation Committee and the SDCOS board, the grant will be awarded.



Phalaenopsis bellina
Rachel Burns

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Ode to the beautiful C. Angel Cloud Orchid

Loosely translated and rewritten my ancestor, James McIntyre - Canada's "Cheese Poet"

Provided by Bruce Berg

*The ancient poets ne'er did dream
that Was land of such creative?
Hybridizing ne'er imagined it could happen
in this cold land of heat and
where everything did solid freeze
they ne'er hoped or looked for hybrid
Orchids.*

— plagiarized from James McIntyre's
Oxford Cheese Ode

James McIntyre (1827-1906) was born in Forres, Scotland and immigrated to Canada in 1841 at the age of 14. He worked as a hired hand, clearing land and collecting maple sap, and became a furniture dealer selling coffins in Ingersoll, Ontario - cheese making country. I, however, am suffering from "Covid" boredom and looking for ought to occupy my time. I came across the original poem from James McIntyre and thought I'd try to describe in poetic form an orchid that blooms this time of year and challenge others to write poems about their orchids.

Inspired by the wonders of Canada, here McIntyre found his inner muse and published two volumes of poetry, *Musings on the Banks of the Canadian Thames*, and *Poems of James McIntyre*. McIntyre is most infamous for his poems about cheese, and he came to be known as "The Cheese Poet." His best-known "dairy ode" was

about the four-ton cheese displayed at the Toronto Exposition of 1855.
Ode on the Mammoth Cheese weighing over 7,000 pounds


*We have seen thee,
And thy name is Cattleya Angel Cloud
Lying quietly at your ease amongst the
other orchids of lower stature,
Gently fanned by gentle breezes,
Thy fair form no flies dare seize.
All gaily dressed soon you'll go
To the great San Diego County Orchid
show,
To be admired by many a beau
In the city of San Diego.
Visitors numerous as a swarm of bees,
Or as the leaves upon the trees,
It did require to make thee please'd
And stand unrivaled before the Queen of
the Show
The noble Cattleya Angel Cloud
May you not receive a scar as
Let youth beware of these,
For some of them might rudely squeeze
And fondle your cheek, then songs or glees
We could not sing, oh! Queen of these
Orchids.
W'r't thou suspended from a throne,
Adorned with the prized AOS award
Folks would know
How precious that little C. Angel Cloud
showed its beauty proudly
The crowd had seen her and would want
one now
They clamor'd for her loudly*



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Orchid Dates to Remember:

November 3rd
SDCOS and POS Joint General Meeting
7:30 PM
First Tuesday of the month
Zoom; invites sent to membership prior to meeting.
For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

November 4th
SDCOS and POS Joint Culture Class
7:30 PM
The Wednesday after the General Meeting
Zoom; invites sent to membership prior to meeting.
For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

November 5th
SDCOS Board Meeting
First Thursday of the month, 7 PM
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

November 7th
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Socialization 8:45 AM, meeting 9:00 AM
First Saturday of the month
secretary@sdorchids.com

November 29th
Thanksgiving!

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From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

Happy Halloween! I hope you all are doing well as the weather takes a turn for the cooler. I'm loving it ... hopefully my plants are at least ok with it too haha.

If anyone has articles they wish to submit to the monthly newsletter, please continue to send contributions to me at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com. Deadline for submissions is end of day on the **second Friday of the month**.

All the best,

David Vandebroek
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

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