



**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 261:
February 2021**

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Blc. Siao-Cing Beauty 'Vicky'
Plant by Debby Halliday

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – February 2021

President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

February already. The good news is that vaccinations are becoming available to more people. Hopefully we'll start to see this epidemic calm down so we can get back to seeing each other before too much longer. We had a great January meeting with Ron Parsons as our speaker. Over 50 members of SDCOS and POS logged in to hear and see a very entertaining review of weird and wonderful orchid species. It just reaffirmed my love of these amazing plants! We had 60 submissions to the plant forum. Thank you all for participating.

Alex Nadzan gave a culture class on using Orchid Roots, a free online database. This was very useful to everyone who tuned in. Please remember, if you have expertise you can share and are willing to give a bit of your time, we need speakers for culture class. One of the main reasons people join an orchid society is so they can learn and become better growers. Please help us fulfill that mission!

Thank you and congratulations to the members of our Conservation Committee, especially Ron Kaufmann and Betty Kelepecz. They did an excellent job with the recent conservation plant sale, netting over \$4,000 for our grant program. Thank you also to all the members who donated so many great plants to make the sale a success. They plan to repeat the effort in March, so take good care of your divisions.

I regret to announce that we will not have a March Spring Show this year. It was to be our

last year at the Scottish Rite Event Center, so the 2022 show will be a whole new experience. It makes me sad to have to cancel our annual circus, but it still isn't possible to hold it safely. I remain hopeful that we will be able to return to showing at the end of July in the park. A cultural note – continue to groom your plants and especially to remove the papery coverings on your pseudobulbs. This is an ideal home for scale and they may be rejoicing that you have not had shows to inspire a cleanup!

We will be having a plant forum in February. Just attach your images to an email and send them to president@sdorchids.com along with the information below. Only 4 plants per person but you can send multiple pictures of the same plant.

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 Sunday, Jan 31 latest.

Stay safe. Wear your mask. This too shall pass!



Laelia rubescense

Debby Halliday

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**General Meeting, February 2, 7:30 PM
(Speaker will start at 7:35; Plant Forum
will follow speaker at ~8:30)**

**Meeting to be held via Zoom; details will
be emailed to the membership before the
meeting.**

Courtney Hackney: ‘American Cattleyas’

At our Zoom meeting on Tuesday, February 2nd, we will be pleased to hear from Courtney Hackney, who will discuss the major lineages found in today’s Cattleya hybrids. In his talk, he will trace breeding trends and specific clones which have contributed to some of the best-known hybrids of today. His talk is based on the decade of research and interviews which went into his 2004 book ‘American Cattleyas’, detailing in old photographs and



Dr. Courtney Hackney

new text how the modern cattleyas came to be. The book also contains useful insights about Cattleyas and Cattleya hybrids, how to grow them, and what to expect from modern hybrids.

Dr. Hackney is an Emeritus Professor of Biology at North Florida University, and is a prolific author. Recently he has been researching coerulea Cattleyas, culminating in an article in the November 2018 issue of ORCHIDS. Other useful columns on breeding and culture can be found on his website at <http://rose4art.com/orchid-growing-tips-index-to-articles.htm>.

He grows a variety of hybrids and species in Jacksonville, Florida, but his favorites are the great Cattleya hybrids. He has about 500 mature Cattleyas in his shade house, including some classic clones which appeared in collections over 100 years ago. He makes 10 to 15 hybrids and species sib crosses each year, and periodically offers them for sale.



Blc. Bryce Canyon ‘Splendiferous’
Culture Class, February 3, 7:30 PM

**Kay Klausing: Western Flower Thrips, a
Challenging Orchid Pest**

Thrips are a small, common orchid pest which is difficult to identify but can damage orchid buds and flowers as well as spread viruses throughout your orchid collection. Kay Klausing, Past President of SDCOS, will conduct a Zoom class on the basics about thrips, including what they are, how to detect them, how they multiply and damage orchid flowers, and how to control them.

From the Membership Desk

Text by Bob Clark, Membership Chair

Please welcome our newest member –
Sidney Ramirez.



Bc Deesse



November *B. cucullata*
By Bruce Berg

In my greenhouse today,
What was waiting for me?
But a *Brassavola cucullata*
Peeking at me! All shiny!
Her petals glowing golden!
With bated breath held I await
Another breathtaking bloom
From my notes, I know
There will be more!
Happily growing, for it is the
Season for the winter blooming to begin!
Oh majestic Cattleyas, Oh delicate
Dendrobiums, Oh
Fragrant Brassias, Oh tiny Sophronitii, I wait
with
Bated breath for your presence!

World Famous San Diego Zoo

All memberships listed below are for zip codes 92100-92899 and include unlimited admission to the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park for one year.

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Renewal Rate \$159.

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP (for one adult)

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Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

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Oncidium sotoanum
Ashley Grable

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Ad: Potted Cymbidiums for sale

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The image shows a promotional graphic for a book. On the left is the cover of 'The Complete Writings of Kate Sessions in California Gardens', a new edition published by the San Diego Floral Association. On the right is a preview of an article from the book, titled 'The Pitkin Legend' and 'Arrival of a New Flower', with a small photograph of a woman in a garden.

Purely Organic Fertilizer

By Bruce Berg

I would like to endorse a fertilizer that I've been using for the past two years that is now available from Home Depot under the name "Purely Organic." This is the same fertilizer that I bought as an experiment for the Species group two years ago.

Originally, I bought 50 pounds online from some farmers down in South Carolina and had to pay shipping costs. You just put one tablespoon of fertilizer in a tea bag and close the bag. I use a stapler. Because I wanted to recoup my investment, I asked \$5 per pound of fertilizer, so members could assess whether it worked for them. I split up the fertilizer and sold it in one pound bags to members.

When I needed to start replacing my bags, I found that the farmers in South Carolina, had started producing it commercially, and it is available at Home Depot under the name "Purely Organic." For those of you who follow Sue Bottoms, and want more information, charts, and shiny photos, you can go to the website:

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/PurelyOrganicFertilizerbySueBottom.pdf> to learn a great deal more about the product.

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Orchid Dates to Remember:

February 2nd

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

February 3rd

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

February 4th

SDCOS Board Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email

president@sdorchids.com

February 6th

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

Socialization 8:45 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

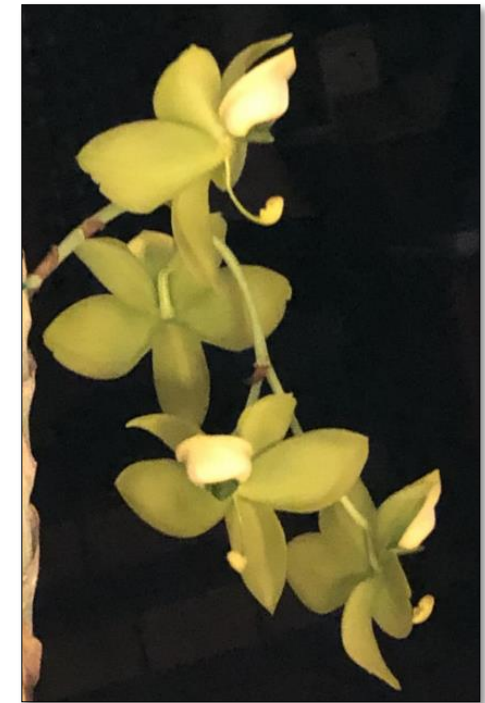
secretary@sdorchids.com



Scaphosepalum gibberosum
Roberta Fox



Cattleya walkeriana aquinii 'Gifu'
Ken Campbell



Cycnoches warscewiczii
Tom Biggart

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From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

I hope you all are keeping well and that you and your plants survived the recent storms – the rain has been absolutely lovely...

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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Required

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