

**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 267:
August 2021**

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Phal. tetraspis
Plant by Debby Halliday

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President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

I'm back! Thank you to Jack Schaefer for running the July meeting. I hear the speaker was very interesting. I appreciated receiving your pictures for the plant forum so Jack could present it at the meeting. Thank you also to Ashley Grable for giving the culture class on her very first meeting after becoming 2nd VP. I'm sorry to have missed it, as everyone says it was excellent.

The Prado will finally re-open on July 19. However, your board has opted to wait until September to resume in person meetings. Our hope is to make at least the speaker available virtually to those who can't attend, so we need a little time to work things out.

When we do resume meeting in the Prado, our meeting will begin with the culture class at 6:30pm, we will have a live plant forum, the speaker will be at 8pm, and we will again have the opportunity table! We plan to make it a special one, so mark your calendar and plan to attend. Our policy on masks will be that if you are vaccinated you do not need to wear one. If you are not vaccinated we will ask that you please wear a mask and socially distance from others. Of course, anyone who prefers a mask will be welcome to wear one.

In other news – we have found a location for our Spring Show! We will be using the Liberty Station Event Center and the show will be April 15 – 17, 2022. Many more details will be coming as we get closer.

We will be having our last virtual Plant Forum in August, so be sure to send me your

pictures. Let's go out on a high! Choose your best images of your recent blooming orchids. Attach your images to email and send them to president@sdorchids.com along with the information below.

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

Only 4 plants per person but you can send multiple pictures of the same plant.

Please have your pictures to me by Sunday, August 1st.

I look forward to seeing everyone again on August 3 via Zoom. I hope you are having a nice summer!



C. tenebrosa aurea x C. purpurata sanguinea
Debby Halliday



Dendrobium chrysotoxum
Dave Rimlinger



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General Meeting, August 3, 7:30 PM

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

Ken Cameron: The Power of Movement in Orchids: Fast Action Floral Snap-Traps in Porroglossum

Text by Ken Cameron

Everyone is amazed the first time they see the flowers of Porroglossum, and you will be too! In fact, Charles Darwin was fascinated by the power of movement in plants, and if he had known about the pleurothallid genus Porroglossum, he almost certainly would have considered these small Neotropical plants to be among the most remarkable of all orchids. I say this because physical stimulation of the flower's labellum causes it

to actively snap inward thrusting pollinators against the column in a sort of floral trap. To better understand these orchids, we reconstructed their evolutionary history using a combination of different types of genetic data. For our movement / kinematics study we recorded high-speed videos of the active, floral snap-traps of nearly all Porroglossum species while in Ecuador at Ecuagenera Nursery, and used computer software to calculate various features of their motion. A strong pattern of correlation between the movement of these orchids and the elevations at which they grow emerged. Our study, therefore, considers the function, structure, pollination biology, and 'behavior' of these remarkable orchids through the lens of their natural history. Some tips on their cultivation in modified chilled wine coolers will also be presented.

Biography:

Ken Cameron, Ph.D. is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Botany & Conservation Biology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he also serves as Director of the Wisconsin State Herbarium, a collection of more than 1.3 million plant specimens. He has published more than 100 scientific papers and books on the biology of different orchid groups, but is best known for his research on Vanilla and related orchids. Ken was recognized by the American Society of Plant Taxonomist with the Peter Raven Award for Exceptional Botanical Outreach in 2014 and is highly sought after as a speaker for orchid societies around the country.



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Culture Class, August 4, 7:30 PM
Speaker: TBA



Cynorkis gibbosa
Betty Kelepecz



Encyclia dickensoniana
Tom Biggart



C. purpurata carnea x roxio-violeta
Debby Halliday

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www.sandiegozoo.org

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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Newcomers' Orchid Potting Workshop, Aug 14, 2021

Text by Debby Halliday, President

GOOD NEWS! We can finally have a potting workshop again and you are invited! Bring your orchids and learn to repot with all supplies on hand and instruction included. The workshop starts with a pot-luck lunch and will be held at SDCOS President Debby Halliday's beautiful tropical garden in Rancho Santa Fe.

It's an excellent way to meet some of your officers and long-time members in a relaxed and friendly setting. We'll have lunch together with a potting demonstration followed by time to work on your own plants. There should be plenty of helpful experienced members on hand to answer questions or assist you.

We will meet at **12 PM** for lunch on the patio and then get to work. Ben Machado, of Calavo Gardens, will provide medium and a range of pots. We will also supply scissors, labels, stakes, gloves, etc., so you only need to bring your plants. For best results, they should be showing new root growth. That will ensure that they take off and grow immediately with minimum transplant shock.

We are asking for a fee of \$5 per plant to cover the supplies you use. Ben will also have a few other items on hand for sale if you need them. He specializes in supplies for orchid growers and is a long time SDCOS member.

Please bring a lunch dish to share. We'll provide drinks and utensils. You are invited

to enjoy the meal and conversation and take a tour of Debby's greenhouse and gardens before or after the workshop.

Here are the details. We will be doing sign up at the August Zoom meeting or you can visit the Volunteers section on our website to sign up online. It is important to sign up if you plan to come so we have enough supplies for you.

Date: Saturday, Aug 14
Time: 12 pm ->
Address: 6769 La Valle Plateada
Rancho Santa Fe

Cost: \$5.00 per plant (\$10 for cymbidiums – they are big!)

Our workshops are really fun. Our participants always learn something and walk away with a new confidence in their ability to care for orchids.


NOTE – as always, you don't have to be a new member to come. If this session interests you, go ahead and sign up. You'll be welcome!



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Orchid Dates to Remember:

August 3rd

SDCOS 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

August 4th

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Society business at 6:30 PM; main program at 7:00 PM

First Wednesday of the month

1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos, CA 92078

August 4th

SDCOS 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

August 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

August 7th

SDCOS Species Group Meeting

Socialization 8:45 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

secretary@sdorchids.com

August 14th

Potting Workshop

12 PM potluck lunch

6769 La Valle Plateada Rancho Santa Fe

RSVP to president@sdorchids.com

September 25-26

Fascination of Orchids

10 AM – 4 PM

Details provided on associated ad

180 E. Chestnut, 92107

2021 SDCOS Officers

President:	Debby Halliday
First VP:	Stewart Walton
Second VP:	Ashley Grable
Secretary:	David Vandebroek
Treasurer:	Myra DeTate
Director at Large:	Carey McCoy
Director at Large:	Jack Schaefer
Director at Large:	Sima Perkins
Past President:	Kay Klausing

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From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

I hope you all are keeping well. I'm very excited to start seeing you all again as we start to reopen – with the potting workshop at Debby's, Species group, and the promise of September all being in person, I'm starting to get excited for the society!

That, and finally selecting a new venue for our Spring Show is a pretty great feat :) Very much looking forward to seeing how Orchid Magic comes together in 2022.

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

San Diego County Orchid Society
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San Diego, CA 92176

