

**San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter
Volume 280:
September 2022**

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**Cattleya Hawaiian Variable
By Felisa Acantilado
Best of Show Winner, 2022 Summer Show**

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – September 2022

President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

It's hot out there! I hope your plants are holding up in spite of the weather. At least it's humid and sticky too. Welcome to our tropical season. At least we had a great orchid show!

Our July Show in the Park had a wealth of lovely flowers on display and very enthusiastic visitors coming in to enjoy them. Our outdoor classes were well presented and well attended.

Our volunteers once again converted room 101 to a beautiful garden setting, efficiently handled sales, put out signs all over the park, and did all the other jobs required to run a

successful show. Thank you one and all! Good job!

Here are the main award winners:

Felisa Acantilado with Cattleya Hawaiian Variable

Best of Show James & Lise Wright Award and Forrest Robinson Cultural Award

Debby Halliday with *Den. laevifolium* 'Little Joy' HCC/AOS

Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award

George Pflaum with Rlc. Dick Smith 'Paradise'

People's Choice Award

It worked perfectly! Congratulations to all our exhibitors on your beautifully grown orchids!

Our August speaker was Carlos Lopez from SVO talking about the Four Seasons of Cattleyas. It was well presented and reminded us that there are blooming cattleyas for all seasons of the year. Alex Nadzan demonstrated repotting neofinetias. I am now inspired to take on some of mine! Our thanks to both speakers for giving us a very educational and interesting meeting.

I hope you're making progress on your summer repotting. I see plants sprouting new roots, so there's still a little time left to freshen things up. See you on September 6th!

See the full list of Best of Section winners on Page 8. These were all gorgeous plants. Congratulations!

We enjoyed the highest sales ever for a July show. Saturday yielded over \$20,000 in vendor gross sales, with almost everyone sold out by the end of the day. After restocking on Sunday, the sales were almost another \$10,000. If there had been more plants, the sales would have been even higher. We had a new set-up for our cash registers which was a big improvement. Myra and her team did a wonderful job!

Almost 500 people voted for our People's Choice Award. That indicates a very healthy turnout of show visitors. 91 individual plants from 14 different growers earned at least one vote as someone's favorite. The point of People's Choice is to slow visitors down and encourage them to really look at the flowers.



Den. laevifolium 'Little Joy' HCC/AOS
Debby Halliday



Rlc. Dick Smith 'Paradise'
George Pflaum

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General Meeting, September 6th, in person at Balboa Park Room 101 and Simulcast on Zoom; 7:30 PM.

Rene Van Rems: Artistic Design of the World of Orchids Show at the San Diego Botanic Garden

Text by Alex Nadzen, POS Copresident, with David Vandenbroek, SDCOS First VP

We are delighted to welcome Rene Van Rems, AIFD (American Institute of Floral Designers) to our society for the first time. Rene is “artist in residence” at the San Diego Botanic Garden and has produced 20 of the Gala in the Gardens fundraisers from its inception. Rene knows the garden well through his 42-year relationship with the former Quail Botanical Garden, ever since he landed from Amsterdam as a horticulture exchange student. He is the San Diego Botanic Garden Creative Director for the Palomar and San Diego County Orchid Society’s “World of Orchids”, which recently held a sell-out 6-week exhibition.

Rene will share his creative insights as it relates to plant display, composition, and how to get the most visual value of each species. Rene will present a visually exciting lecture on the principles and elements of design, focusing on color, texture, and proportion. He will also cover the subject of visual perception and the role our emotions play in viewing (artistic) works of art.



Enjoy a custom produced “behind the scenes” tour of the highly popular SDBG “World of Orchids”.

Rene is a Dutch born and educated horticulturist and designer who is involved in floral industry styling, product development, education, and marketing. He is a multiple award-winning international artist and has performed his talents at many of the leading botanic gardens, arboreta, and museums in the USA and abroad. He is an international speaker on trends and design in the flower and plant industry and he is the author of two well-received coffee table books on European floral design. Through his work, Rene has been invited to judge the Pasadena Tournament of Roses, the Philadelphia Flower Show and many others.

To say that Rene is a sought-after and wonderful speaker is an understatement, and we are very fortunate he has agreed to speak to us this month.

Rene will also be participating in the pre-meeting speaker’s dinner. You are invited and encouraged to join us at the Prado



Restaurant at 5:45 PM. Please send me a text or email by **Saturday, September 3**, if you want to come. (firstvp@sdorchids.com). As always, dinner is on you, but the conversation is free. This is a wonderful way to get to know our very interesting speakers on a more personal basis.

The Opportunity Table will be provided by Andy’s Orchids.

Looking forward to seeing you all for this interesting presentation!

Culture Class, September 6th, 6:30 PM
Speaker: TBD

We will be having Culture Class as usual before our General Meeting.

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Helping Fund Rainforest Preservation

Text by David Vandebroek, First VP

As many of you know, the Orchid Conservation Alliance, founded in part by members of our society, raises money for and partners with organizations that purchase orchid habitat, with the goal of preserving the orchids – and the myriad other life – in that land.

This month, representatives of the OCA asked the SDCOS Board of Directors if we would be willing to email our members requesting they, individually, help a specific project: a land purchase in northern Ecuador which is home to many *Dracula* species. The Board agreed to the request, and also decided that this mission was in line with one of the society's goals: promoting orchid conservation.

To that end, the Board moved to allocate \$5000 from the general fund, subject to membership approval, to donate to the OCA for the *Dracula* Reserve Project. The motion was seconded and passed. The membership will be asked to approve this expenditure at the September General Meeting.

Following is an article from two SDCOS members about the *Dracula* Reserve project, Peter Tobias and Ron Kaufmann, President and Secretary of the Orchid Conservation Alliance, as well as pictures of orchids found there.



The *Dracula* Reserve

Text by Peter Tobias and Ron Kaufmann, from the Orchid Conservation Alliance

The *Dracula* Reserve is a conservation area in northern Ecuador. Established in 2015 with funding from the [Orchid Conservation Alliance](#), the Rainforest Trust, and other partner organizations, the reserve is located near the border with Colombia and managed by [Fundación EcoMinga](#), an Ecuadorian nonprofit conservation organization that has a strong history of successful habitat protection for more than 15 years. A lush green landscape of forest-covered mountains spanning more than 2800 acres, this area is a hotspot of diversity for the orchid genus *Dracula*, for which the reserve was named. The [Dracula Reserve](#) is known to contain a remarkable diversity of flora and fauna, many of which are known to occur only in the valley in which the reserve is situated. Early surveys of the *Dracula*

Reserve identified over 400 different orchid species from 55 different genera, and this list continues to grow as new species of orchids are discovered in the reserve, along with other new flora (trees) and fauna (mice, frogs, and shrew opossums, among others).

Fundación EcoMinga has been an excellent steward of this reserve. In addition to employing guards to patrol the property and partnering with researchers who are studying the habitat, the staff and volunteers at EcoMinga have gone to great lengths to involve the local community. During the pandemic, EcoMinga, the OCA, and other partners raised funds to purchase and deliver food supplies to the villagers. EcoMinga also has worked with communities and local organizations to provide internet access for the children's education, and to educate the children and their families about the forests and their inhabitants.



(Above) *Trevoria sp. nov.*
New species discovered in the
Dracula Reserve



this activity before it produces irreparable damage to this important ecosystem.

Gold mining is one of the most destructive industries in the world. It displaces communities, contaminates soil and drinking water, and destroys pristine environments permanently. Gold mining pollutes both the water and the land with mercury and cyanide, toxic chemicals that poison the flora and fauna and create “dead zones” that no longer support life. Mining activity produces erosion

Sadly, the amazing diversity of this area is now threatened by illegal gold mining, and the Orchid Conservation Alliance is partnering with Fundación EcoMinga to stop

that clogs streams and rivers, and the waste from mining operations can even harm marine ecosystems far downstream of the mine site. Miners have already started mining on two privately-owned properties adjacent to the Dracula Reserve, and we desperately need your help to purchase one of these large lots (274 acres) from the landowner and stop this destructive activity. The second parcel will be purchased by another foundation that is also currently raising funds. The owners want to sell to Fundación EcoMinga, and not the mining companies, but we need to raise **\$100,000** as soon as possible to complete the transaction.

We ask for your help to protect this beautiful, diverse ecosystem from the ravaging effects of gold mining. To support this initiative, please visit the OCA website:

<https://orchidconservationalliance.org/emergency-funding/>

Thank you in advance for your support!

Peter Tobias, President, and Ron Kaufmann,
Secretary
Orchid Conservation Alliance



Pleurothallis chicalensis

Discovered in
the Dracula
Reserve

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Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
August 2022.

Text and photos by Phyllis Prestia

There were 5 orchids presented for judging.
One award was given.

[1] Rlc. Arnold Gum 'Arnie' AM /AOS
Exhibited by Arnold Gum
Awarded AM, 82 points

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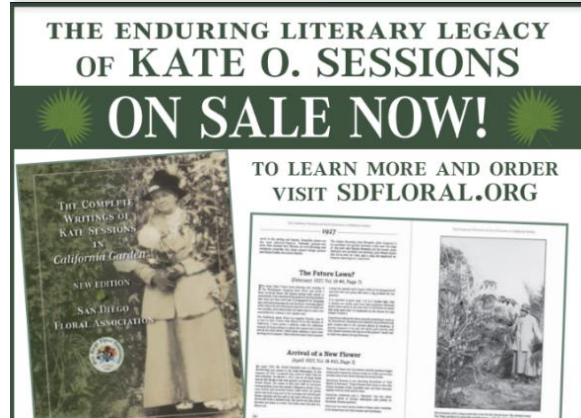
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**Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
Summer Show in the Park, July 2022.
Text and photos by Phyllis Prestia**

There were 9 orchids presented for judging.
Five were awarded.

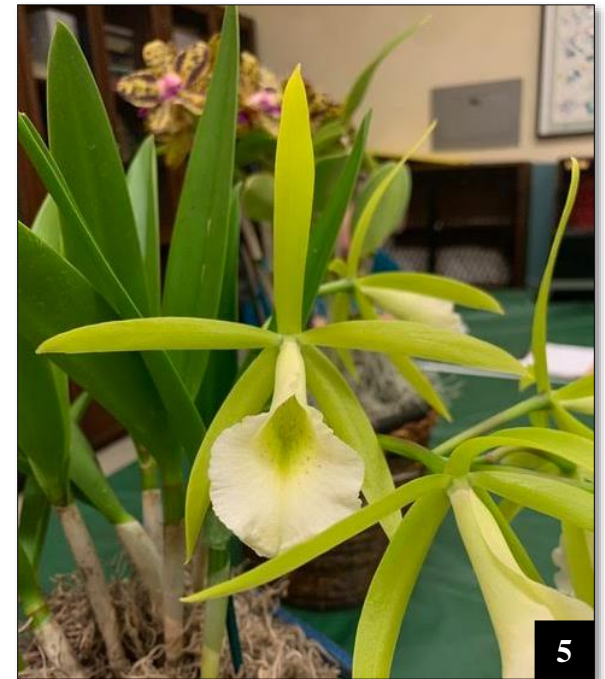
[1] Den. Doctor Judith 'Pam's Sapphire'
HCC/AOS
Exhibited by Pam Peters
Awarded HCC, 76 points

[2] C. x fidelensis 'Windflower' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Betty Kelepecz
Awarded AM, 81 points

[3] Rlc. Stippled Sunset 'Oceanview'
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Alex Nadzan
Awarded AM, 82 points

[4] *Sobralia xantholeuca* 'Windflower'
HCC/AOS
Exhibited by Better Kelepecz
Awarded HCC, 77 points

[5] Procatavola Key Lime Stars 'Lyn's
Surprise' AM/AOS
Exhibited by George Pflaum
Awarded AM, 87 points



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People Who Brought in Plants for display for the July Park Show

Felisha Acantilado, Tom Biggart, David Brown, Rachel Burns, Alan Castillo, Myra DeTate, Natalia Gaidarenko, Debby Halliday, Betty Kelepecz, Kay Klausing, Alex Nadzan, Tom Osborn, Pam Peters, George Pflaum, Jerry and Anita Spencer, Robin Street-Morris.



San Diego County Orchid Society presents
Orchids
Show and Sale
in the Park

October 29–30
 Saturday Noon – 5 p.m.
Early bird sales start at 10 a.m.
 Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Balboa Park's
 Casa del Prado, Room 101
Near the Natural History Museum

Free Admission




 sdorchids.com
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Show Winners, July 2022			
Sec	Award	Orchid	Winner
	James & Lise Wright Best of Show	Cattleya Hawaiian Variable	Felisa Acantilado
	Forrest Robinson Cultural Award	Cattleya Hawaiian Variable	Felisa Acantilado
	Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award	<i>Den. laevifolium</i> 'Little Joy' HCC/AOS	Debby Halliday
	People's Choice Award	Rlc. Dick Smith 'Paradise'	George Pflaum
1	Cymbidium Standard Hybrid	No Entries	-
2	Cymbidium Hybrid Miniature	Cymbidium Mad Hatter	Anita & Jerry Spencer
3	Cymbidium Hybrid Pendulous	Cymbidium Australian Midnight	Anita & Jerry Spencer
4	Cattleya Alliance Standard	Cattleya Hawaiian Variable	Felisa Acantilado
5	Cattleya Alliance Compact	Cattleya Katherine Clarkson	Anita & Jerry Spencer
6	Cattleya Alliance Miniature	<i>Laelia liliportiana</i> x Cattleya Penny Kuroda 'Spots'	Tom Biggart
7	Paphiopedilum Hybrid	Paphiopedilum Vexillarium	Natalie Gaidarenko
8	Phragmipedium Hybrid	No Entries	-
9	Oncidium Alliance Hybrid	Brassidium Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara'	Alex Nadzan
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	Dendrobium Little Green Apples 'Imp' AM/AOS	Debby Halliday
11	Vandaceous Alliance	Neostylus Lou Sneary	Alex Nadzan
12	Hybrids of Other Genera	Encyclia Ruffy Profuse 'Myakka River' AM/AOS	George Pflaum
13	Phalaenopsis Alliance	Phalaenopsis Chinn Golden Butterfly 'Master'	Alan Castillo
14	Specimen Plants	<i>Prosthechea cochleata</i>	Rachel Burns
15A	Species over 6" tall Classes A - S	<i>Encyclia megalantha</i>	Tom Osborn
15B	Species over 6" tall Classes T - II	<i>Prosthechea garciana</i>	Rachel Burns
16A	Species under 6" tall Classes A - S	<i>Den. laevifolium</i> 'Little Joy' HCC/AOS	Debby Halliday
16B	Species under 6" tall Classes T - JJ	<i>Tolumnia urophylla</i>	George Pflaum
17	Small Displays	No Entries	-



An orchid from the Dracula Reserve

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Or call toll free 877.3 MEMBER

Visit our website:

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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Orchid Dates to Remember:

September 3rd
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Socialization 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM
First Saturday of the month
firstvp@sdorchids.com

September 6th
SDCOS General Meeting
Culture Class: 6:30 PM; Program: 7:30 PM
First Tuesday of the month
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101

Also broadcast via Zoom; meeting link to be emailed to members prior to meeting. For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

September 6th
AOS San Diego Judging Center
6 PM, first Tuesday of the month
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

September 7th
Palomar Orchid Society Meeting
Society business at 6:30 PM; main program at 7:00 PM
First Wednesday of the month
Carlsbad City Library
1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011

September 8th
SDCOS Board Meeting
Normally the first Thursday of the month, 7 PM
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

September 23-25
Fascination of Orchids
Santa Ana Zoo
Details in ad on this page

Board and General Meeting Minutes

The SDCOS Board meeting minutes can be found at:
<http://sdorchids.com/Minutes.html>



An orchid from the Dracula Reserve

2022-2023 SDCOS Officers

President	Debby Halliday
First Vice President	David Vandebroek
Second Vice President	Ashley Grable
Secretary	Jack Schaefer
Treasurer	Myra DeTate
Director at Large, to 2023	Sima Perkins
Director at Large, to 2024	Carey McCoy
Director at Large, to 2025	Stewart Walton
Past President	Kay Klausung

Fascination of Orchids, Inc.
and the
Santa Ana Zoo



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Orchid Conservation Alliance

Conserving Orchids by Conserving Orchid Habitat

The OCA conserves orchids by funding habitat preservation. Since inception in 2005 we have helped with the purchase of over 3000 acres of orchid habitat, protecting hundreds of orchid species in Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Many species of rare birds, trees, frogs, mammals also find refuge in these reserves.



Dracula gigas (L), *D. trigonopetalata* (R)
Dracula Reserve, Ecuador

Dracula lemurella (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
La Selva de Ventanas Reserve, Colombia

We hope you will join us in promoting this important work. We invite you to become a member of the OCA, to make a donation, to take a trip with us to see Orchids in the Wild®, and to purchase merchandise through our website. Since we have no paid staff, all proceeds support orchid conservation. The OCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

For more information: www.orchidconservationalliance.org

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From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

I hope you all had a great time at our Summer Show! Thanks to all the people who contributed wonderful plants! :) And also to our members who volunteered. This society sticks together because of all of us coming together to make it happen.

I hope you and your plants are all managing to stay well though this heatwave! It's a tough time to be an orchid...

If you were on the fence about whether to brave the outside on Tuesday, please definitely come to our General Meeting – Rene recently spoke at the Palomar Orchid Society and his reviews are *great! He's recruited to give speeches and demonstrations around the world, and we're so fortunate to be able to have him come and speak with us next week. Feel free to bring a friend or two, too, as this talk won't be exclusively about orchids – there may be a broad range of people interested in this one.

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

