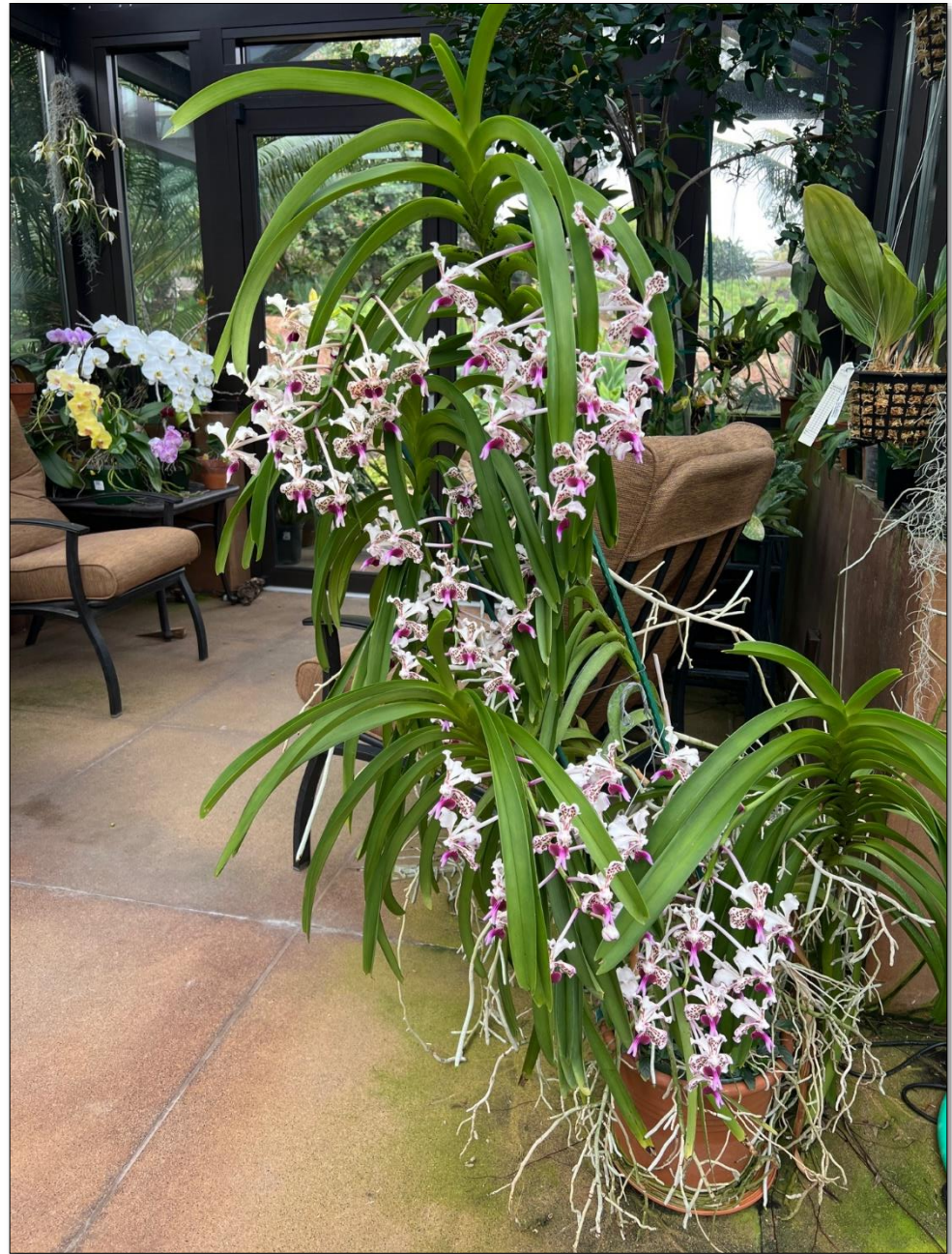


San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 290:
July 2023

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REMINDER!! Due to the holiday, our next general meeting is on **Monday, July 3rd**, NOT the usual Tuesday.



Vanda tricolor
Plant by Debby Halliday

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President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

This is my last message to you as President. We elected new officers in June and they will be installed in July. Please come if you can to give them your support. They deserve our gratitude for agreeing to lead us forward. Their leadership will help us remain an active and engaged society that we can all be proud of. Have a look in this newsletter for pictures and bios of your new board members.

We enjoyed a great presentation on Asian cymbidiums by Jack Zhu in June. I have added a few to my collection and will be trying hard to grow them even half as well as he does. I hope you were all inspired by Ashley's talk and have a better idea of how to get the most out of your club membership. Kudos to everyone for bringing in so many plants for the plant forum. It was like our own private orchid show. Fair warning – I will be travelling at the end of June and will come to the meeting directly from the airport. If our July forum is anything like June, you won't even miss my plants!

The potting workshop on June 10 was a great success! Ben Machado hosted on his lovely patio and many new members attended. I hope we accomplished our goal of making them braver and more confident with repotting. It was fun to meet everyone and I look forward to seeing them again.

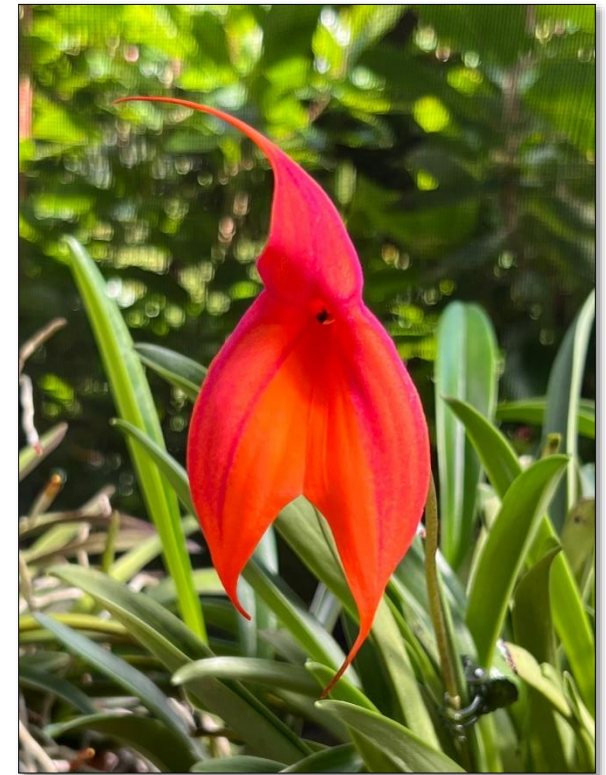
Thank you for trusting me to lead the club these past three years. It has been an interesting time. When I took office in 2020, I was really concerned that the SDCOS might not survive the COVID emergency. We not

only survived, we thrived. We gained new expertise in meeting remotely and welcomed new members who could not have participated in person. We are now able to even have speakers join us from across the world. In spite of a few glitches, we are continuing successfully with in-person plus remote hybrid meetings. I am very grateful for the help of Myra's husband Jack DeTate, who generously stepped in to keep our technology running. Thank you all for your patience and loyalty that carried us through that difficult time.

It has been gratifying to see the enthusiasm of our visitors once we were able to have shows again. I think we met the challenge of moving the venue of our Spring Show to Balboa park and our smaller park shows are better attended than ever. As I step away from being your President, I will remain Show Chair for not only the big show, but the small ones as well. I have always been blessed with the best show committee and look forward to adding new faces to the team as we carry on. Our next show is July 29/30, so please please sign up to volunteer, either online or at the meeting. Together we can put on another stunning orchid show!

For me, the good news is that I'll remain on the board as Past President. Please feel free to bring me your ideas or concerns. I will continue to care! See you in July.

xxx
Name



Masdevallia veitchiana
Debby Halliday

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Incoming President's Message

Text by David Vandebroek, President Elect

Hi everyone, I am deeply honored to have been elected as the President of our esteemed orchid society for the upcoming term. The past three years have been incredibly rewarding for our society, and I want to take a moment to express my utmost gratitude to our outgoing President, Debby Halliday. Her exceptional leadership throughout the challenges posed by the pandemic, the unexpected change in venue from the Scottish Rite Center, and the need to reimagine our renowned Big Show deserves immense recognition and appreciation. Debby has truly gone above and beyond for our society, fostering a welcoming environment for new members, motivating volunteers, and ensuring that our club remains an attractive destination for orchid enthusiasts. It has been an absolute privilege to serve alongside her.

Furthermore, I am delighted that Debby will continue to serve on the board as the Past President, offering her invaluable guidance and stability as we navigate significant leadership changes in the coming fiscal year.

It is important to acknowledge that the strength and vibrancy of our society stem from our dedicated members, particularly those who actively participate and volunteer. The level of involvement and commitment we have witnessed thus far has been nothing short of remarkable, and for that, I am immensely grateful.

My primary goal for the year ahead is to foster a sense of connection and support

among all members of our society. I want to ensure that each and every one of you feels valued and embraced by our community. Together, we can keep SDCOS a place where we can not only expand our knowledge of orchids, but also forge meaningful connections with like-minded individuals who share our passion for these exquisite plants.

To accomplish this, I will be seeking your input and ideas on how we can enhance the society. Keep an eye out for a survey in the coming months, as your feedback is crucial to our growth and development.

As we begin a new year, accompanied by the addition of several fresh faces to our board, I believe it is fitting to introduce the 2023-2024 Board of Directors. In the following pages, you will find the names, pictures, and brief statements from each member. If there is someone on the board whom you have not yet met, I encourage you to greet them warmly at our upcoming meeting.

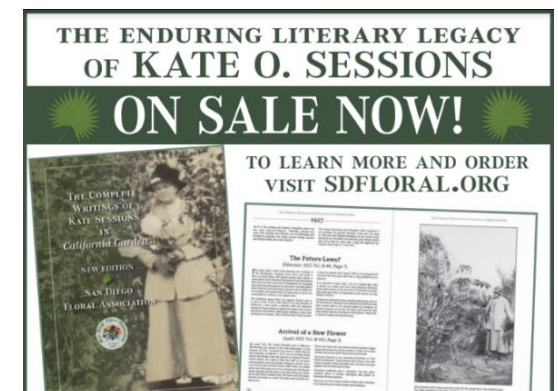
I eagerly anticipate the journey ahead and the opportunity to serve each and every one of you. Thank you once again for entrusting me with this role, and may your orchid endeavors be filled with joy and success!

Culture Class, **Monday, July 3, 6:30 PM** **Paul Tuskes: American Orchid Society (AOS) Judging**

Text by Ashley Grable, 2nd VP

Have you noticed American Orchid Society (AOS) awards given to select plants at SDCOS orchid shows or monthly meetings and wondered what caught the judges' eyes? Did you know some AOS awards are given to the plants, others are given to the grower, and still others recognize new and unique trends? Paul Tuskes' culture class presentation will talk about AOS judging, how to become a judge, and what information you can access on the AOS web site. Bring your questions and learn more about AOS judging and awards!

Paul and his wife, Ann, are both fully accredited AOS judges. Paul has served as AOS vice-chair for the Pacific South Judging Center region and as chair of the San Diego Center, a role he recently passed on to Phyllis Prestia. Paul and Ann started the SDCOS Species Study Group that meets on the first Saturday morning of the month, and they also worked with others to start the SDCOS orchid conservation effort many years ago.



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General Meeting, **Monday, July 3,** in person at Balboa Park, Casa del Prado Room 101, Room 101 and Simulcast on Zoom; 7:30 PM.

Jose Carlos Lopez: Habenarias

Text by David Vandenbroek, First VP, and Jose Carlos Lopez, speaker.

This month we're excited to have Jose Carlos Lopez return to us to give a new talk of his on Habenarias. His talk last year to our society on the Four Seasons of Cattleyas was very well received, and it will be a great opportunity to hear about this beautiful genus.

Jose Carlos Lopez is a Business student at Mira Costa College who has been cultivating orchids for more than eight years. His orchid venture began at the age of 13 years old when he started to follow his father to work at Sunset Valley Orchids. Before he knew it, he was volunteering at the nursery and was helping clean orchid flasks, re-potting orchids, and doing small tasks. Carlos eventually began to become more involved in the nursery's operations and maintenance and started to take part in attending orchid shows. He is currently the manager of



Sunset Valley Orchids and has years of experience with Cattleya, Catasetum, Australian Dendrobiums, and Sarcochilus. Jose Carlos Lopez is currently training to become an American Orchid Society Judge and works with Orchid Digest as well.

This presentation will include information on the diverse genus of Habenarias, including a bit about what makes them special and how to care for them.

Carlos will also be providing the opportunity table, so come prepared to score some great plants!



Habenaria medusa
Debby Halliday

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Habenaria rhodocheila 'Cardinal's Roost'
Debby Halliday

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Orchid Potting Workshop

Text by David Vandebroek, First VP

After a yearlong wait, we were thrilled to have another successful potting workshop last month. This time, we had a fantastic turnout of 13 enthusiastic attendees, making it a perfect-sized group for a productive session.

The workshop took place at Ben and Susie Machado's lovely home, where the weather was pleasantly warm without being overly hot. As always, our members contributed delicious treats for a potluck lunch. As usual, Ben generously supplied materials, ensuring that everyone could find the perfect pot and bark combination for their beloved orchids. Additionally, Ben had some extra supplies available for purchase for great prices.

After settling in, the day started with a repotting demonstration by Debby Halliday, who showed how to pot both a Phalaenopsis and a Cattleya-type orchid, so attendees could get a feel for what to look for from both.

After that, attendees found their designated workstations and brought out their orchids. The more experienced members of our society readily offered guidance and support to anyone seeking advice or assistance. The atmosphere was filled with diligent work, and by the end of the afternoon, each participant left with freshly potted orchids and newfound confidence in their potting skills.

As the morning of potting wound down, we all pitched in to tidy up the workspace, and regrouped in the kitchen where Susie had laid out all our offerings; we had a delightful little lunch and conversation time before we



headed home ... after buying whatever supplies we needed from Ben.

For those who have yet to experience the joys of attending one of these workshops, be sure to sign up for the next opportunity. It is a great way to forge connections with fellow members and enhance your orchid-growing skills. Thank you to all who attended; your presence made this potting workshop remarkable!



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**Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
June 2023, 6:30 PM.**

Text and photos by Phyllis Prestia

There were fifteen orchids presented for judging. Five were awarded. (continued on next page)

[1] *Catyclia* Louise Odom 'Bravo Orchids'
FCC/AOS

Exhibited by William (Bill) Tse

Awarded FCC 90 points

Upgraded award for greater floriferousness,
richer color, and fuller, rounder form.

[2] *Paph.* Lady Booth 'Sunset Valley Orchids
Super' AM/AOS

Exhibited by Fred Clarke

Awarded AM, 84 points



Please remember: judging starts promptly at 6:30, so please have your plants in before then.

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Judging at the San Diego Judging Center, continued

[1] *Cattleya* Motte Spot 'Pink Phantom' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Ruben Colmenares
Awarded AM 87 points

[2] *Encyclia* Moonlight Fireflies AM/AOS
Exhibited by J. Carlos Lopez
Awarded AM, 84 points

[3] *Vanda barnesii* 'House of Sin' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Jack Li
Awarded AM 80 points





Sarcochilus hartmannii
Debby Halliday

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Orchid Dates to Remember:

July 1
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Socialization 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM
First Saturday of the month
firstsvp@sdorchids.com

July 3
SDCOS General Meeting
Culture Class: 6:30 PM; Program: 7:30 PM
Usually, the 1st Tuesday of the month, **this month we are a day early because of the holiday**
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

July 3
AOS San Diego Judging Center
6:30 PM, first Tuesday of the month
Registration starts at 6 PM
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 104

July 5
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

July 6
SDCOS Board Meeting
First Thursday of the month, 7 PM
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

July 14 - 16
Cal-Orchid Summer Hummer Sale Event
9 AM – 5 PM
<http://www.calorchid.com/>

July 30 - 31
SDCOS July Show
First Thursday of the month, 7 PM
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

Board and General Meeting Minutes

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



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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. trigonopetala* (R) *Dracula lemurella* (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
Dracula Reserve, Ecuador 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

2023-2024 Officers

President	David Vandebroek
First Vice President	Ashley Grable
Second Vice President	Nate La Breche
Secretary	Maria Gray
Treasurer	Myra DeTate
Director at Large, to 2024	Carey McCoy
Director at Large, to 2025	Stewart Walton
Director at Large, to 2026	Sima Perkins
Past President	Debby Halliday



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From the Editor:

Hi everyone,

I think this is going to be the last "From the Editor" for a while. Going forward, I'll be composing the President's message, and I think that will hold all the new information I have. It's been nice slipping a little note to everyone here, though.

Once thing I'd like to add is that if people want to submit articles or (their own) orchid pictures to the newsletter, please do feel free and encouraged to do so. To go in *this* newsletter, submissions should be in by the 2nd Friday of the month; however late submissions can still go in the following article.

If you submit pictures, please include in the email text the plant name (double check spelling because I can't spell and I'll trust you!) and your full name. I can only include a couple pictures every month, but they're great to have :)

Contributions should be sent to me at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com.

Anyway, looking forward to working with you in this new capacity in the coming year! (also looking forward to a little sun! My poor plants have needed a grow light set up outside because it's so foggy!)

All the best,

David Vandebroek
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

San Diego County Orchid Society
P.O. Box 161020
San Diego, CA 92176

