

**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 266:
July 2021**

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Cynorkis gibbosa
Plant by David Vandenbroek

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – July 2021

President's Message

Text by Debby Halliday, President

Happy 4th of July! The months keep flying by. I trust you are all busy repotting your orchids as they pop out happy new roots. That is certainly how I am passing a lot of time.

We had our election of officers in June. My thanks to Jack and Kay who helped make it go extremely smoothly. Welcome and thank you to our new 2nd VP, Ashley Grable. Also thank you Stewart Walton, 1st VP; David Vandebroek, Secretary; Myra DeTate, Treasurer; and Carey McCoy, Director at Large; for rejoining the board. Installation of officers is in July.

There is still no firm date for re-opening the Prado. We were hoping to know by now, but as of writing this article, things are still on hold. The board met and we have reluctantly decided that a July Show is not possible. Let's look forward to a great show on October 30 & 31!

Once we know the Prado is open, our first priority will be to resume in-person meetings and AOS judging. Our hope is to also make the meetings available on Zoom to anyone who cannot attend. That will require all our devices to work together reliably. We hope to talk one of you techy people into helping out!

I will miss seeing you in July, as I will be travelling. Stewart Walton, 1st VP, will chair the meeting. I plan to create the plant forum anyway and another board member will present it. PLEASE GET YOUR PICTURES IN EARLY!

To be part of the Plant Forum, 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 Saturday, July 3 latest.

I am so looking forward to greeting each other in person again. We'll get there!



Den. thrysiflorum
Debby Halliday



Renanthera Amayani
Debby Halliday

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General Meeting, July 6, 7:30 PM

Meeting to be held via Zoom

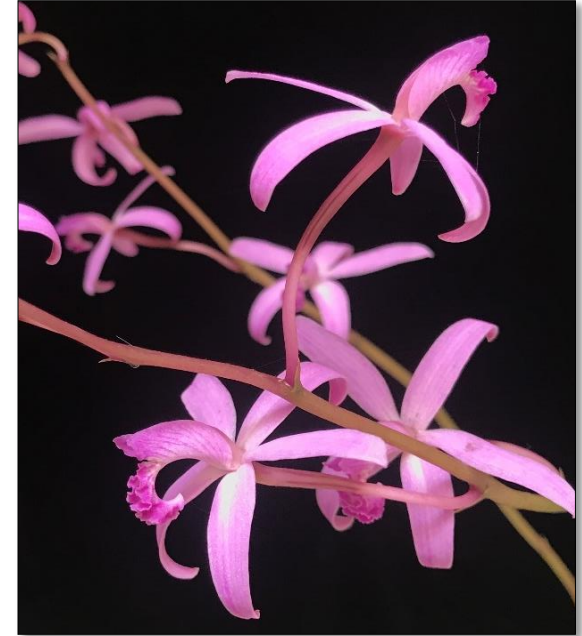
Francisco Miranda: Rupicolous Laelias of Brazil

Text by Stewart Walton, First VP

At our next meeting we will hear from our friend Francisco Miranda, on the rupicolous Laelias of Brazil.

It might be that the orchids that put Brazil on the horticultural map were the big Cattleyas like *labiata* and *mossiae*, but the little rupicolous (rock growing) laelias gave hybridizers new colors to play with. For our meeting this month, our friend Francisco Miranda will give us an overview of these charming little flowers. Francisco will group the plants by color, and then show us where they grow, with maps and descriptions. The list of Hoffmannseggellas (as some botanists have classified them) is growing rapidly as new species or color forms are discovered. These plants are especially appealing to us in San Diego because they grow very well here and take up very little space.

Francisco Miranda is a native Brazilian, having moved to Florida in 1999 after running an orchid nursery in Brazil since 1986. He has spoken to us in the past, and we are glad to welcome him again, this time virtually.



Rupicolous Laelias of Brazil



San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – July 2021

Culture Class, July 7th, 7:30 PM

Ashley Grable: Self-Watering and Alternative Potting

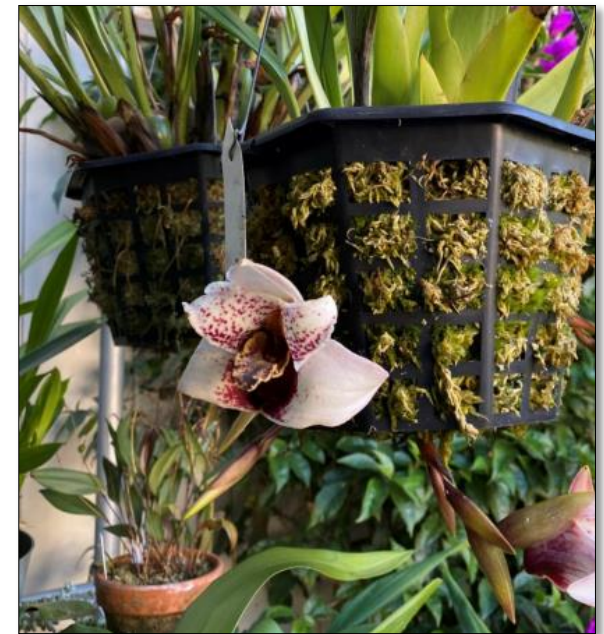
Text by Ashley Grable, Second VP

During the past three years, Ashley has converted one third of her orchid collection to self-watering setups and semi-hydroponic media from sphagnum moss and bark. Along the way, she researched everything from the wicking properties of lightweight expanded clay aggregate (LECA) to retrofitting orchid pots to perform like African violet pots to submerging roots in water for days at a time. While she is still perfecting her techniques, she will share information she has gathered from various expert sources, including the AOS, and notable orchid growers from around the globe, as well as best practices she has picked up and lessons she has learned through her own experience.

If you want to learn how you can go on vacation and leave your orchids unattended for weeks at a time, or how you can avoid having to replot because of organic media breaking down, this class is for you.



Sedirea (Phalaenopsis) japonica
Rachel Burns



Maxillaria sanderiana
Betty Kelepecz



Nageliella augustifolia
Pam Peters



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Orchid Dates to Remember:

July 3rd
SDCOS Species Group Meeting
Socialization 8:45 AM, meeting 9:00 AM
First Saturday of the month
secretary@sdorchids.com

July 6th
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

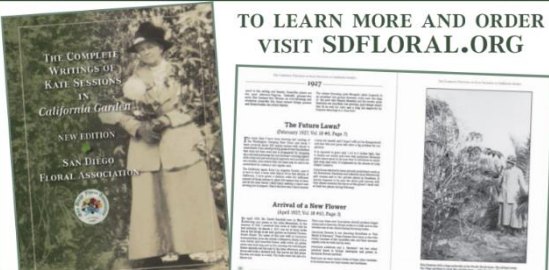
July 7th
SDCOS Culture Class
7:30 PM
The Wednesday after the General Meeting
Zoom; invites sent to membership prior to meeting.
For a nonmember to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

July 7th
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

July 15th
SDCOS Board Meeting
Normally, the first Thursday of the month, 7 PM; delayed this month for the holiday.
Zoom; for an SDCOS member to request a meeting invite, email president@sdorchids.com

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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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.

From the Editor:

Hello everyone,

Happy 4th of July! I hope you and your plants are surviving as we warm up. I was definitely bummed we won't be able to have our July Show, but with things easing up, our Fall Show, on the last weekend in October, seems likely! Looking forward to seeing you all in person soon.

Rhetorical Question: is it an abuse of my *vast* editorial power to put my orchid on the front page? Perhaps... but I've been caring for that *Cynorkis gibbosa* for three years, half of that time is tending to an "empty" pot since it's deciduous, and I was SO happy when it bloomed for me for the 1st time this month. It's possibly my favorite flower... Oh well – I hope suffering through my tyranny isn't too taxing for you.

Also: culture class with our new 2nd VP, Ashley Grable, sounds like it will be very interesting this month! Looking forward to it.

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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