

**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 304:
September 2024**

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Brassia verrucosa
Best of Show
Forrest Robinson Culture Award
Dave Rimlinger

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President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Hi everyone, I hope you're all doing well as we start to change seasons. I, for one, will not be missing those 90+ days, and, as many of our plants go dormant, I also welcome the less frequent watering.

I know many people didn't get to see last month's newsletter because it came out late – if you want, the NL is up on the website in the archive section here:

https://sdorchids.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/NLv303_8_2024.pdf

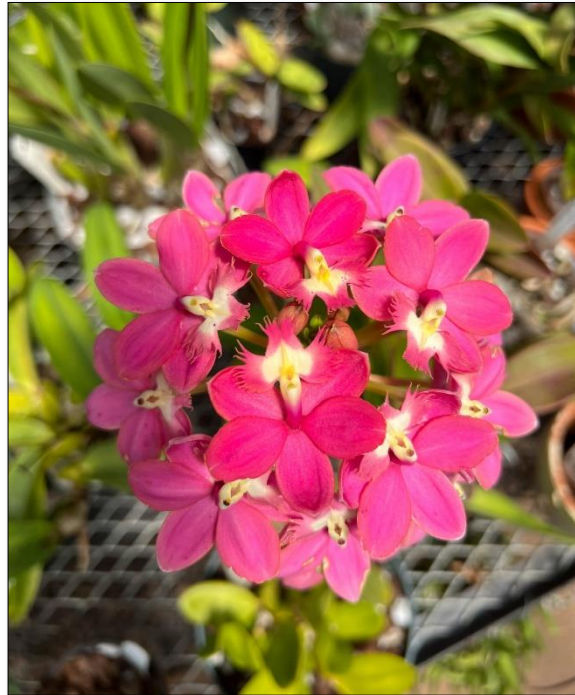
While there isn't a rush to replace me (yet), if anyone is interested in taking over the society's Newsletter Editor role, please reach out to me – I've been doing it since 2018 and I'd be more than happy to train up a replacement if someone feels inclined to take on the role.

Thanks again to everyone who brought in plants or volunteered at the July Show – your work and plant contributions are what make the shows possible! It was a great show, and I'm going to reproduce some of the things from the August newsletter about the show here so anyone who missed last month's NL can see them as well.

Last up, the Board is continuing to look at some By-Laws updates and we hope to vote on them as well as the 2024-2025 Board at the Holiday Party on December 3rd. We really need a quorum for that meeting (around 90 members, not counting guests), so if you can, please plan on attending this

year's holiday party. We'll try to incentivize things with some extra good plants!

Hope to see you next week at the General Meeting, and happy growing!



Epidendrum Pacific Red Hots x Pacific Artist
Pacific Artist
Debby Halliday

Species Group Delayed

David Vandebroek, Species Group Moderator

Please be advised that this month's Species Group will be held 1 week later, on **September 14, NOT on the 7th**. The location and time remain unchanged, and members of the group should have already been notified by email.



Stanhopea tigrina
Peter Tobias

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

Daniel L. Geiger, Ph.D.: Taking pictures of small orchid flowers: from iPhone to SEM
Daniel L. Geiger and Ashley Grable, First VP

Dr. Daniel L. Geiger has grown orchids since about 2004, specializing from in the overlooked genus *Oberonia* from early on. He has served on and chaired the American Orchid Society Research Committee and has held occasional board appointments with local orchid societies. He has given talks on orchids locally in California, as well as internationally – including Australia, UK, and Singapore – and he has visited herbaria around the globe (AMES, B, BM, CANB, E, F, K, L, MICH, MO, NSW, P, SEL, SOG, SING, US, W, WU, Z, ZU). He served as guest editor for *Rheedea*, the international, peer-reviewed journal that publishes original research articles in angiosperm taxonomy. He has authored 12 scientific papers on the genus *Oberonia*, plus a number of more popular accounts. He currently writes the global monograph of *Oberonia*, which has an estimated publication in 2027.



Additionally, Geiger is a globally recognized authority on abalone and minute marine snails (little slit shells). Equally recognized is his expertise in Scanning Electron Microscopy, as well as micro- and macro-photography. His images have appeared in numerous articles, books, and exhibits (e.g., Smithsonian Institution, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, US National Aquarium). He has co-authored five books and an estimated 80 scientific articles, and he has named over 100 new species of snails, crabs, fish, and orchids. Ten species, including one orchid, and one genus are named after him. He has held various editorial positions and is an appointed member of the *International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Mollusk Specialist Group*.

Geiger obtained his first degree (Diplom Biologie I) from the University of Basel, Switzerland. His Ph.D. thesis from the University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, received the 2000 Annual Award from the Malacological Society of London. After a postdoc in molecular systematics at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles



County and teaching appointments at USC, he worked at Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History from 2005 to 2024, where he is now Curator Emeritus of Malacology. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking, woodturning, photography, playing baroque viola d'amore (honorary member of the International Viola d'amore Society, e.V.), and teaches yoga (RYT 200 & yin).

Small orchid flowers are challenging to photograph. In his talk, "Taking pictures of small orchids flowers: from iPhone to SEM", Geiger will discuss the issues (depth of field,

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diffraction, focus strategies, lighting, various limitations) and show how those issues can be addressed. His presentation will cover a wide range of techniques and equipment; he starts with ubiquitous smartphones, continues with compact cameras and mirrorless/SLR cameras, ventures into z-stacking with regular cameras, stereomicroscopes and compound microscopes, and even discusses UV reflectance imaging (insect vision) of microfloral orchids. Eventually the talk



ventures into research imaging with a scanning electron microscope (SEM) of dried flowers (critical point drying, variable pressure SEM) and live flowers (environmental SEM), as well as chemical element mapping (energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry/analysis).

*SDCOS members are invited to join, at their own expense, **dinner with the main speaker** on the evening of the presentation. To secure your seat, email 1stVP@sdoorchids.com by Monday, September 2. Please arrive at the restaurant – [The Prado at Balboa Park](#) (1549 El Prado, Suite 12) – prior to the 5:45 pm reservation, so the table may be seated on time.*

*Looking to add a few orchids with small flowers to your own collection? Andy's Orchids will supply the September opportunity table, with a focus on easy-to-grow plants with small or miniature flowers. For a chance to take one or more plants home, participate in the **opportunity table plant raffles** by 1) picking up a free raffle ticket (one per person) at the meeting's welcome table; 2) redeeming your volunteer reward coupons for chances to win; 3) exhibiting your orchid in bloom on the meeting's show-and-tell table in exchange for a raffle entry; and/or 4) purchasing raffle tickets.*

Photos of various small orchid flowers by Daniel L. Geiger



Culture Class, DATE, 6:30 PM
Orchid Pests: Orchid Pests
Nate La Breche, Second VP

Nate La Breche is the second VP of the SDCOS. He started growing orchids in January of 2023 in his apartment using a grow tent along with shelves and LED lighting. His presentation will focus on common orchid pests. Specific topics will include identification, impact on plant health, and treatment methods.

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Another Successful Repotting Workshop Nate La Breche, Second VP

Around 20 SDCOS members attended the repotting workshop on August 17th at Debby Halliday's house in Rancho Santa Fe. Members started arriving around 11:30 AM to socialize. A wide variety of food was brought for the potluck, ranging from deviled eggs to chocolate chip cookies. There was something for everyone's tastes! The food was enjoyed in the ample shade of the backyard patio. The repotting demonstration occurred after lunch. It consisted of three segments. First, Nate La Breche repotted a small Cattleya hybrid. Debby Halliday then repotted a Phalaenopsis hybrid and demonstrated dividing a large Cattleya hybrid. Finally, Stewart Walton discussed testing orchids for viruses using commercial kits. It was an interactive experience where participants asked questions about tool sterilization, container selection, and root health.

After the demonstration, it was time to get down to business. Most members had brought plants that needed attention, including Cattleyas, Cymbidiums, and Phalaenopsis. Tables with newspaper and burlap on the lawn served as repotting stations. There was a full complement of tools, gloves, labels, and waste bins available for the activity. It was rewarding to see the confidence of inexperienced members increase as they obtained hands-on experience. By the end, all the plants looked great in their new homes. After repotting was completed, Debby provided a tour of her clean, well-organized greenhouse. It was a treat to see her

collection! Our goal of educating newer members about an important aspect of orchid culture while also providing an opportunity to meet people was achieved.

Special thanks to Ben Machado with Calavo Gardens, who took photos of the event and provided supplies, including media and potting containers. Also, thanks to Debby Halliday for providing the venue as well as Tom Biggart, Lisa Humphries, and Stewart Walton for general assistance. If you missed this event, do not worry. It is planned to be held again in June of next year. Also, be on the lookout for a workshop next spring concerning how to mount orchids. We look forward to seeing you at future workshops!



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Judging at the San Diego Judging Center
(Casa del Prado, Balboa Park),
August 2024, 6:30 PM.
Phyllis Prestia

There were two orchids awarded.

[1] *C. Elegans* 'Leviathan' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Jose Carlos Lopez
Awarded AM, 83 points

[2] *Paph. parishii* 'O'sides Sparklers'
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Tim Culbertson
Awarded AM, 84 points

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



1



**Palomar Orchid Society
Orchid Sale**
Saturday, September 7th
10am-2pm
Dove Library, Gowland Room
1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad

Great prices on Blooming and
Non-Blooming Orchids!
Cattleya
Phalaenopsis
Dendrobium
and many more
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2



Laelia purpurata var. *carnea*
Betty Kelepecz



Onc. Sphacelatum
Peter Tobias

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The July Show (reprint) Pam Peters

The July Show was a huge success. Many thanks to the Show Committee and especially the set-up crew headed up by Tom Corzine and George Pflaum. George got up at dawn's early light to pick up the U-Haul and, along with his crew, bring the supplies from the garage and set up Room 101 including the Speakers' area. Tom was the Show Chair and organized all the volunteers, lunches, signage, and other duties associated with putting on the show. Cyndie Corzine corralled every visitor to participate in the People's Choice Award balloting. Thanks also to Myra DeTate and her crew of cashiers who handled sales, Pam Peters and the judging teams, and the many vendors.

There were 189 beautiful and interesting orchids entered in the show brought in by the following people: Tom Biggart, Florian Blume, Juan Bonilla, Julian Bromfield, Jane Wesley Brooks, David Brown, Rachel Burns, Ken Campbell, Julia Clemens, Myra DeTate, Palo Garcia, Wendy Garnica, Neal Grant, Maria Gray, Debby Halliday, Sean Hogan, Lisa Humphreys, Kay Klausing, Nate LaBreche, Ben Machado, Alex Nadzan, Bicvan Ngyuen, Tom Osborn, Pam Peters, George Pflaum, Barry Reder, Dave Rimlinger, Suzi Sandore, John Snyder, Min Teng, Peter Tobias, and Stewart Walton. Kudos to you all.

Nico Goossens and Kay Klausing gave demonstrations on How to Care For and Rebloom Your Trader Joe's Orchids and Ben Machado discussed Orchid Basics. The

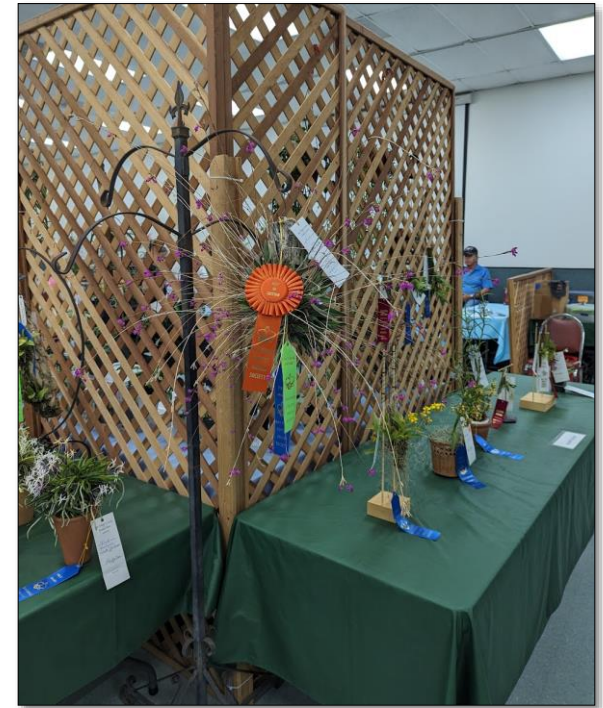
audiences were most appreciative and had many questions.

Dave Rimlinger's species *Brassia verrucosa* won Best in Show and the Forrest Robinson Culture Award.

Peter Tobias' *Clowesia thylaciochila* won the Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award.

Min Teng's *Oncidium Jiaho* Queen won People's Choice Award.

The Best of Section winners will be listed in the next newsletter.



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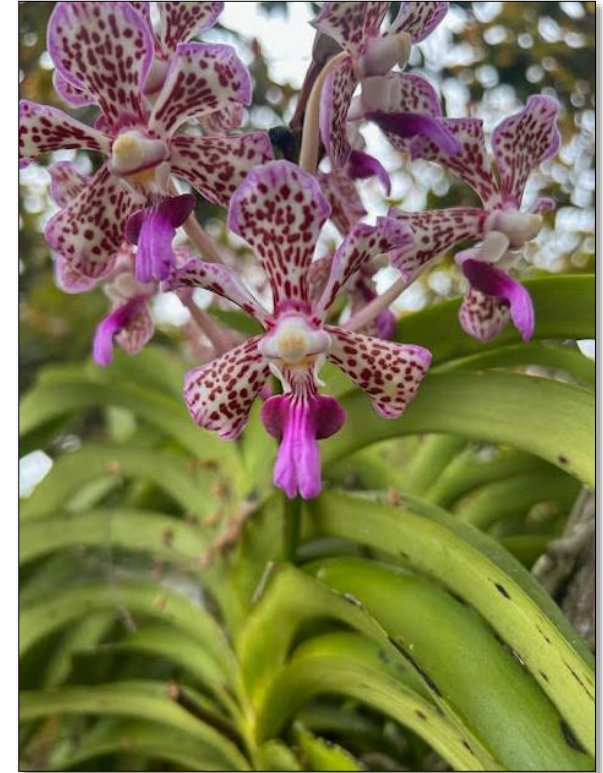
Show Winners, July 2024			
Sec	Award	Orchid	Winner
	Best of Show (James & Lise Wright Award)	<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	Dave Rimlinger
	Forrest Robinson Cultural Award	<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	Dave Rimlinger
	Siv Garrod Most Unusual Species Award	<i>Clowesia thylaciochila</i>	Peter Tobias
	People's Choice Award	<i>Oncidium</i> Jiaho Queen	Min Teng
1	Cymbidium Standard Hybrid	No Entries	-
2	Cymbidium Hybrid Miniature	<i>Cymbidium</i> Helen Bannerman 'Black Magic'	Alex Nadzan
3	Cymbidium Hybrid Pendulous	No Entries	-
4	Cattleya Alliance Standard	Blc. Wily Waianae 'Grove Groove'	O. J. Bromefield
5	Cattleya Alliance Compact	<i>Pot.</i> Little Toshie 'Gold Country'	Ken Campbell
6	Cattleya Alliance Miniature	<i>Lc.</i> Spot Check 'Jump Up'	O. J. Bromefield
7	Paphiopedilum Hybrid	<i>Paph. rothschildianum</i> x <i>Paph. laevigatum</i>	Kay Klausling
8	Phragmipedium Hybrid	No Entries	-
9	Oncidium Alliance Hybrid	<i>Oncidium</i> Jiaho Queen	Min Teng
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	No Entries	-
11	Vandaceous Alliance	<i>Vanda</i> Kulwadee Fragrance #27 (H29)	Ken Campbell
12	Hybrids of Other Genera	<i>Zygonesia</i> Cynosure 'Blue Birds'	Debby Halliday
13	Phalaenopsis Alliance	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Little Gem 'Stars & Stripes'	Alex Nadzan
14	Specimen Plants	<i>Brassia verrucosa</i>	Dave Rimlinger
15	Large Species: Angraecum - Masdevallia	<i>Dendrobium unicum</i>	Nate LaBreche
16	Large Species: Maxillaria - Zygopetalum	<i>Oncidium flexuosum</i>	Rachel Burns
17	Small Species: Angraecum - Masdevallia	<i>Dendrobium wassellii</i>	Debby Halliday
18	Small Species: Maxillaria - Zygopetalum	<i>Nageliella purpurea</i>	Stewart Walton



Laelia purpurata var. *werkhauseri*
Betty Kelepecz



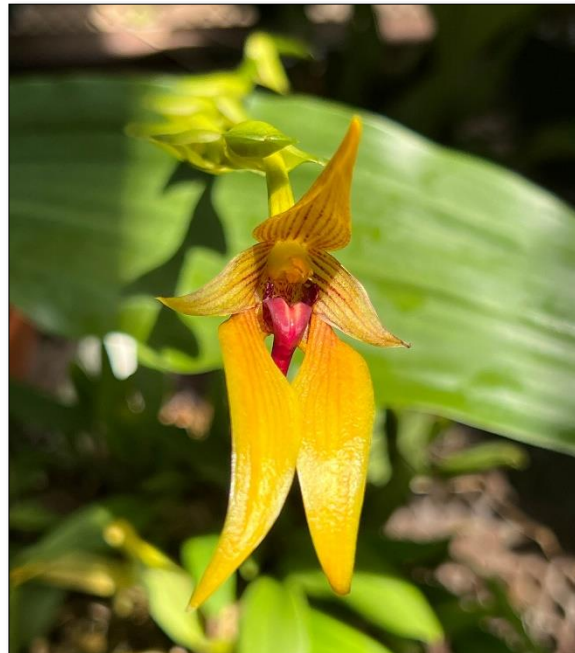
Laelia purpurata var. *mandayana* (69
x Tuca)
Betty Kelepecz



Vanda tricolor
Peter Tobias

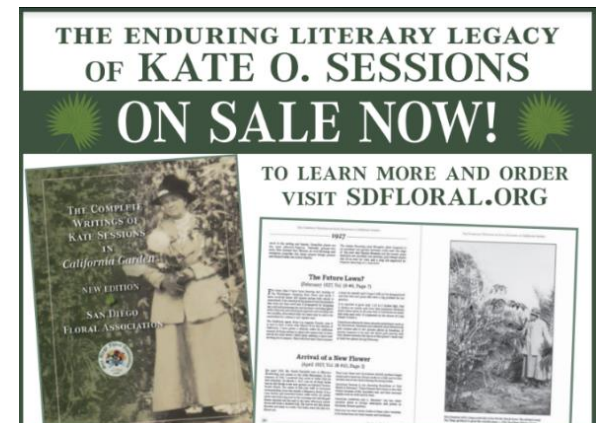


Phrag. Noirmont
Debby Halliday



Bulbophyllum orthoglossum
Debby Halliday

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Orchid Dates to Remember:

September 3

Main Speaker Dinner*: 5:45 PM

*See Main Speaker article for details.

September 3

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 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

September 4

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 5

SDCOS Board Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

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

president@sdorchids.com

September 7

Palomar Orchid Society Orchid Sale

10 AM – 2 PM

Dove Library, Gowland Room

1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011

<http://www.palomarorchid.org/>

September 7-8

South Bay Orchid Society Show & Sale

10 AM - 4 PM

5504 Crestridge Rd.

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

<https://southbayorchidsociety.com/Show/>

September 14

SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting

IMPORTANT! Species Group is meeting 1 week later than usual

Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

president@sdorchids.com

October 26-27

SDCOS Fall Show

Balboa Park

<https://sdorchids.com/our-shows/>

2023-2024 Officers

Note: these are continuing into the 24/25 year

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

Board and General Meeting Minutes

The SDCOS Board meeting minutes are available to members upon request.

president@sdorchids.com



Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz
Debby Halliday



Sobralia macrantha 'Bolin' HCC/AOS
Betty Kelepecz

SDCOS Newsletter Notes

Interested in being the next SDCOS Newsletter editor? Please contact me at the email below to discuss the role. The primary responsibilities are: collect the articles from the President, 1st and 2nd VP, and Judging chair, and then generate and upload the newsletter. Pretty straightforward! Contact me at SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com if you're interested in learning more.

SDCOS welcomes newsletter contributions of articles and pictures from members.

To be included in the next issue, contributions should be sent to SDCOSNewsletter@gmail.com by end of day on the **second Friday of the month**.

Contributions that come in after the deadline can still be included in the following issue, so don't let missing the deadline stop you from sending things in.

For contributions of pictures, please include the correct, full name of the orchid being shown in the email text. Also, please do not submit more than 3 pictures per month (unless they're really good...). I will not be able to use every picture, but having a small library to choose from is helpful.

All the best,

David Vandebroek
SDCOS Newsletter Editor

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