

**San Diego County Orchid
Society Newsletter
Volume 308:
January 2025**

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Epidendrum Hybrid
Stewart Walton

San Diego County Orchid Society Newsletter – January 2025

President's Message

David Vandebroek, President

Happy New Year! It was great seeing everyone that was able to attend the holiday party last month – many thanks to Arthur Pinkers and Ann Tuskes for creating and presenting the presentation of AOS awards from 2024 – it is always great to see everyone's beautiful plants!

We also had a successful election – we voted in a new Board of Directors. As the now-official-again President, I would like to thank the outgoing Board for the last year and a half of service, and thank the 2024/25 board for agreeing to continue to serve. The Board meets on the 1st Thursday of the month and deals with many of the details of running a society that can't be accomplished in the general meeting. I very much appreciate the time and effort the Directors put in to help the society keep functioning. A little more information can be found about each of the Directors on our website here:

<https://sdorchids.com/board-of-directors/>

We will, as usual, have our next Election in June; we will likely have some seats on the board open. If you are willing to consider serving on the Board for a 1-year or 3-year term, please reach out to me at president@sdorchids.com and let me know. Most immediately, **we need a Secretary** – that position is currently vacant. I will repost the duties of Secretary on a following page.

I'm also happy to announce that the membership voted to approve the two grant requests recommended by the Conservation Committee. Many thanks to the

Conservation Committee Chair, Ron Kauffman, who leads communication with grant applicants and making sure funds get distributed, reports get collected, and grants get evaluated. With this year's grants, SDCOS has raised and given away more than **\$300,000 in conservation funds**. This is an AMAZING sum, and I'm proud to be part of an organization that has done so much good for orchids in the world. Many thanks to the members now and in the past that have served on the Conservation Committee and those who have donated plants for sale at our shows to raise money for this.

Last up, we have our January Show in just over 3 weeks! As always, we need volunteers to pull this off – please sign up at the meeting next week or online (link coming soon) if you'll be able to participate. Regardless of if you can volunteer, please bring your blooming orchids! These shows are a great opportunity to show off your plants to each other and to the general public – we can't have an orchid show without orchids, so if you have anything blooming this winter, please consider bringing it in!

Overall, 2024 was good for SDCOS – I'm happy to be part of the society and look forward to another year of growing with all of you.

Happy New Year!

David Vandebroek



Mystacidium venosum
David Vandebroek

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

2024-2025 Officers

President	David Vandebroek
First Vice President	Ashley Grable
Second Vice President	Nate La Breche
Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Myra DeTate
Director at Large, to 2025	Stewart Walton
Director at Large, to 2026	Sima Perkins
Director-at-Large, to 2027	Carey McCoy
Past President	Debby Halliday

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

Mitchell Schneider: Journey into Wonderland: Inter-generic Zygopetalums
By Alex Nadzan, article republished from the Palomar Orchid Society

It is our pleasure to welcome Mitchell Schneider to our society for the first time. Mitch will speak on his efforts to develop novel intergeneric Zygopetalums to the orchid world.

Dr. Mitch Schneider's interest in orchids started young in his teenage years. Mitch started orchids after seeing the orchid mania display in his hometown at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens. During his PhD studies, Mitch worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. While at Los Alamos, Mitch met Dr. Ron Midgett, who has been breeding orchids for over 55 years. Mitch learned the art of breeding orchids from Ron. When Ron started considering retirement, Mitch became a co-owner of New Earth Orchids, and relocated operations from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Half Moon Bay, CA, after accepting a position to join the electron sources team for the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC).

Mitch's primary interest in breeding orchids is in the Cattleya alliance, Oncidium alliance, and Zygopetalum alliance. Mitchell has continued Ron's work of producing compacted novelty size Cattleya's who have plants no bigger than 18 inches tall with flowers that are 5 to 6 inches in natural spread in a wide variety of color forms

including large full segmented cerulean, green with a white lip, spots and stripes, and his favorite the art shade lines. Mitchell also has started breeding to reintroduce high quality warmth tolerant Odontoglossum with the assistance of Bob Hamilton. Mitch is also working with a consortium of breeders to pioneer inter-generic Zygopetalum with full spectrum colors.

Mitch is active in the American Orchid Society Pacific Central Judging Center, has been serving on the SFOS show committee, and is now the Vice President. Mitch strives to encourage younger orchid growers to become more involved and to help partner them with experienced members to share their love of orchids, and to learn from each other.

Mitch will be available for the usual Speaker's Dinner at 5:45 and will be providing plats for the Opportunity Table.



RLC Chia Lin 'New City'
Min Teng

Culture Class, January 7, 6:30 PM
Kay Klausing: Growing Masdevallias Outdoors

Nate La Breche, Second VP

Kay Klausing has been growing orchids since the 1980s. With a scientific background, he is attracted to the technical aspects of the hobby. He has over 1,000 plants between three greenhouses in Bay Park, consisting of a variety of genera with a focus on Cattleya and Laelia species. As a past president of the SDCOS, he enjoys helping people learn how to be successful with orchids. He was heavily involved in the development of the SDCOS's new website and is an active volunteer at the seasonal shows. During the Holiday Party last month, he was awarded the status of Life Member by the SDCOS for his dedication and accomplishments. In this presentation, he will be providing an overview of growing Masdevallias outdoors.

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SDCOS Secretary Vacancy David Vandebroek, President

Dear Members, our SDCOS Secretary has resigned, and we will need someone to fill the position for the remainder of the term (6 months). The duties of the Secretary include:

- Attending the Board Meetings via Zoom at 7 PM on the 1st Thursday of every month
- Taking meeting minutes/notes during the meeting
- Generating official meeting minutes and sending them to the Board before the next Board meeting
- Filing a couple forms with the government every August (we have a good walkthrough document of what needs to be done and how to do it, and it will probably fall to the next Secretary unless you choose to stay on)

This is a 6-month commitment, though if it suits you, we will be looking for a permanent member to start serving next year as well.

If you are interested or have any questions, please email me at president@sdorchds.com or talk to me in person at the next meeting.

Some Species Orchids



NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY
presents

EXOTIC PLANT & ORCHID FESTIVAL 2025

FRIDAY February 7 10 am - 8 pm
SATURDAY February 8 10 am - 8 pm
SUNDAY February 9 10 am - 6 pm

WESTMINSTER MALL

1025 Westminster Mall, Westminster, CA 92683
Free Admission & Parking
<https://nhosinfo.org/>



NEWPORT HARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY

Discover the Beauty of Orchids!
Visitors Welcome – Bring a Friend!
Monthly Meetings Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 PM

- ✦ Inspiring Expert Speakers
- ✦ Tips & Tricks for Orchid Care
- ✦ Showcasing Stunning Orchids
- ✦ Plant Opportunity Table for Rare Finds

Norma Hertzog Community Center
1845 Park Ave, Costa Mesa, CA 92627

<https://nhosinfo.org> Next regular meeting is **January 21**
Auction **February 18**

Join our passionate community of orchid enthusiasts and learn everything you need to grow thriving, gorgeous orchids








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Yearly rate \$174.
Renewal Rate \$159.

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP (for one adult)
Yearly rate \$112.
Renewal rate \$102.

- ~ A year of **FREE UNLIMITED ADMISSION** to both the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park.
- ~ 2 discount guest coupons good toward admission.
- ~ A One Year Subscription to **ZOONOOZ**.
- ~ Free Zoo Skyfari.

Prices & benefits subject to change.
For more information, call 619.231.0251
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:

January 2

SDCOS Board Meeting

First Thursday of the month, 7 PM

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

president@sdorchids.com

January 4

SDCOS Species Study Group Meeting

Socializing 8:30 AM, meeting 9:00 AM

First Saturday of the month

president@sdorchids.com

January 7

Main Speaker Dinner*: 5:45 PM

*See Main Speaker article for details.

January 7

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

January 7

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

January 8

Palomar Orchid Society Meeting

Society business at 4 PM; main program at 5

Usually on the first Wednesday of the month;

this month it will be **1 week later** for the new year holiday

Carlsbad City Library

1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92011

January 25 – 26

SDCOS January Show

As usual, our January show in Balboa Park will be on the last weekend in January.

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

February 7-9

Newport Harbor Orchid Society Show

<https://nhosinfo.org/>

February 18

Newport Harbor Orchid Society Auction

<https://nhosinfo.org/>



Male and female *Catasetum* flowers from the same species

Board and General Meeting Minutes

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

president@sdorchids.com

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Email: casa@orquideas.com



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. 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

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

1st Class
Postage
Required

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

